SEPT. 18/25, 2015 · #1381/1382

Fall TV Preview

Entertainment WEEKLY

ALL THE BUZZ ON 115 SHOWS


EMPIRE


BEST TIME EVER


THE WALKING DEAD


SCANDAL

SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE 2015


AMERICAN HORROR STORY: HOTEL


THE MUPPETS


GRANDFATHERED


THE FLASH


SUPERGIRL


ASH VS EVIL DEAD

THE NEXT
GREAT
DRAMA
IN THE
CHICAGO
TRILOGY


CHICAGO P.D.
SEASON PREMIERE WEDNESDAY SEPT 30 • 10/9c NBC

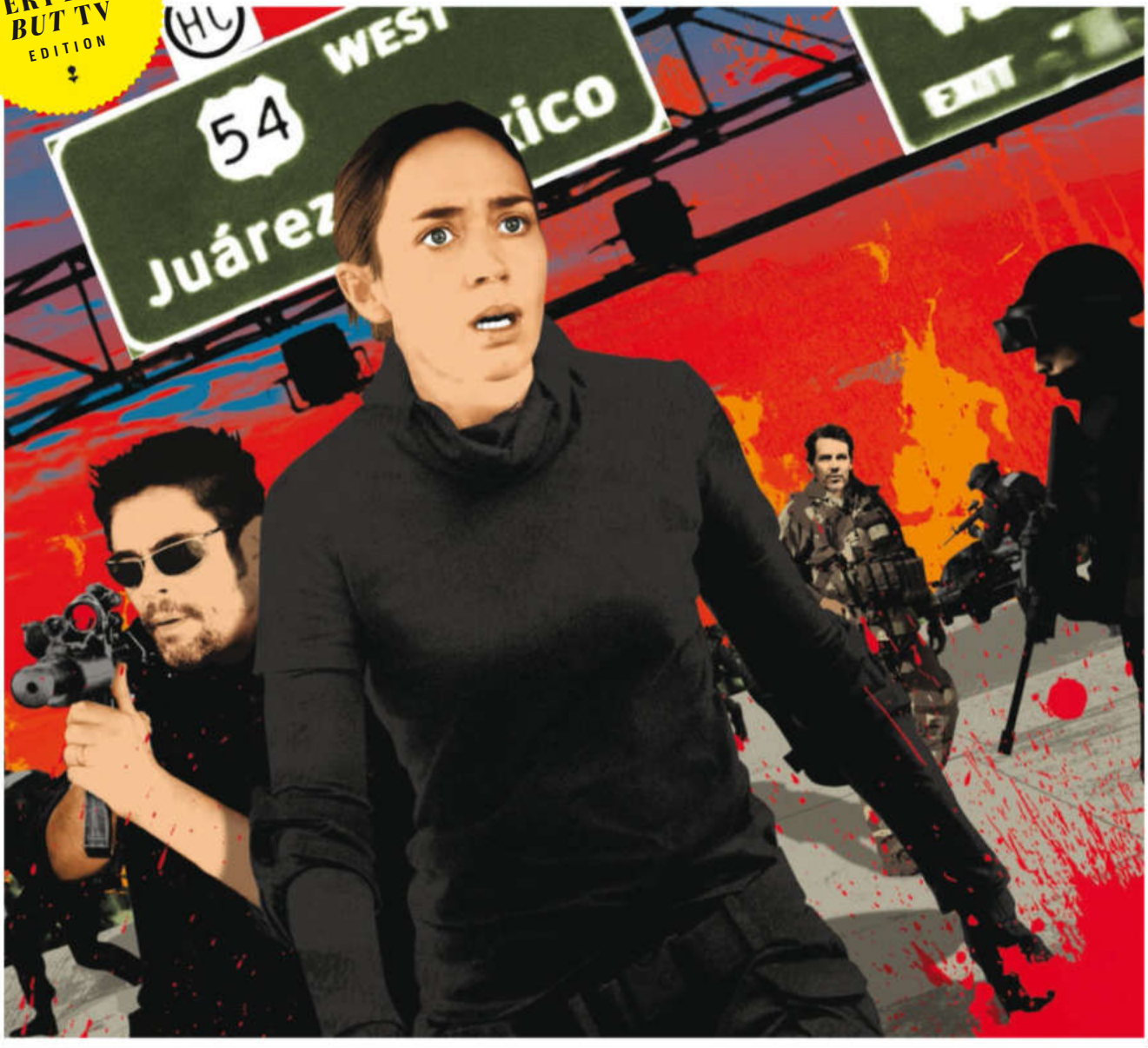

CHICAGO FIRE
SEASON PREMIERE TUESDAY OCT 13 • 10/9c NBC


CHICAGO
MED
SERIES PREMIERE TUESDAY NOV 17 • 9/8c NBC

THE **TOP 10** THINGS WE LOVE THIS WEEK

The Must List

THE EVERYTHING BUT TV EDITION



▼ Benicio Del Toro, Emily Blunt, and Josh Brolin

SICARIO: RICHARD FOREMAN (3)

1 MOVIES

SICARIO

• If you enjoy stunning cinematography, a ripped-from-the-headlines plot, and Emily Blunt playing a badass, then this adrenaline-pumping, thought-provoking drug-cartel drama from *Prisoners* director Denis Villeneuve is something to behold. *(R)*

ILLUSTRATION BY **JOHN RITTER**

2

MOVIES

SLEEPING WITH OTHER PEOPLE

● *When Harry Met Sally...* gets the sharp update it deserves in this off-kilter rom-com starring Jason Sudeikis and Alison Brie as New Yorkers trying to prove that men and women can be just friends—even if they're sex addicts. *(R)*

3

MUSIC

INTRODUCING DARLENE LOVE, Darlene Love

● Though she's spent five decades lending her soulful pipes to classics like "Da Doo Ron Ron," Love arrives with a long-overdue solo album, a stunning collection of vibrant, dramatic rock anthems and R&B workouts.

4

BOOKS

SNOWDEN, by Ted Rall

● The award-winning cartoonist turns Edward Snowden's story into a fascinating graphic biography, complete with details of the NSA leaker's refuge in Russia.

5

MUSIC

DAYS GONE BY, Bob Moses

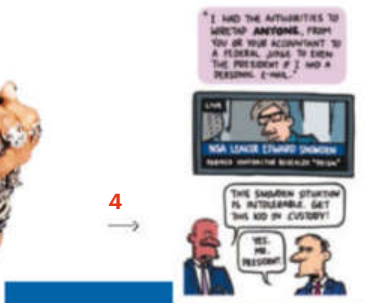
● Imagine EDM infused with the aura of a Charles Bukowski novel and you get a sense of this debut from the Brooklyn duo who have delivered the year's best set of blissed-out yet darkly alluring electro-pop gems.

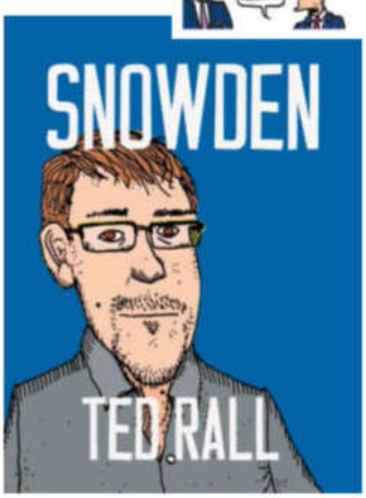
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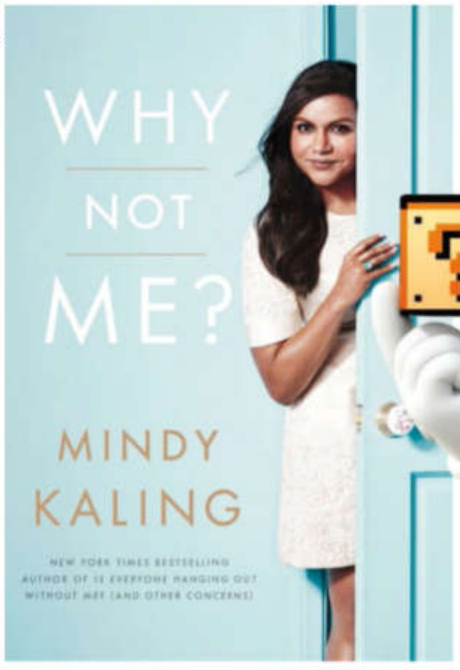
5 →



SLEEPING WITH OTHER PEOPLE: LINDA KALLERUS; LOVE: CHRISTOPHER LOGAN; SNOWDEN: TED RALL; BOB MOSES: POMEROY


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6 7 8 9 10

BOOKS

WHY NOT ME?, by Mindy Kaling

• In the follow-up to 2011's *Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me? (And Other Concerns)*, Kaling's sparkling wit bursts off the page, whether she's confessing her disdain for weddings or giving us an all-access glimpse into her TV career.

MOVIES

TIME OUT OF MIND

• Richard Gere plays a homeless man on the streets of NYC in this drama, much of which was filmed with hidden cameras. The sight of Gere being repeatedly ignored is a profound metaphor for how often we turn a blind eye to an epidemic right in front of us. *(NR)*

DVD/BLU-RAY

THE JINX

• Do you not have HBO? Do you still wonder why all of your friends lost their minds earlier this year? This Blu-ray release is your chance to watch all of Andrew Jarecki's docuseries on millionaire–cum–suspected serial killer Robert Durst.

GAMES

SUPER MARIO MAKER

• Celebrate the pixelated plumber's 30th anniversary with this charmingly addictive game for Wii U, which lets you build your own levels while playing hundreds of gamer-designed challenges from around the world.

MUSIC

I CRY WHEN I LAUGH, Jess Glynne

• You know Glynne's voice from massive dance hits like Clean Bandit's "Rather Be," but after hearing her solo debut, you'll appreciate her ability to layer winsome lyrics over Eurodisco beats even more.

TIME OUT OF MIND: ALLISON ROSA; *THE JINX*: DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP IMAGES/COURTESY OF HBO; *SUPER MARIO MAKER*: NINTENDO; GLYNNE: SIMON EMMETT


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lease of Whole Home DVR and up to 3 add'l receivers. After 12 mos, then prevailing rate for TV package applies (currently $85/mo.) unless cancelled or changed by customer before the end **Value 15GB plan:** $100/mo. plan charge for 15GB of data & $15/mo. access charge per smartphone on no annual svc agmt (AT&T Next, BYOD, full price or month-to-month). Excludes phones deposit may apply per line. **Other Monthly Charges/Line:** include taxes & federal/state universal svc charges, Reg. Cost Recovery Charge (up to $1.25), gross receipts surcharge, Admin. Fee & base TV package of $29.99/mo. or above or international service bundle. Subject to Equipment Lease Agreement and DIRECTV Customer Agreement. $19.95 Handling & Delivery fee may apply. combine eligible TV and postpaid consumer wireless services on a single AT&T bill. Not valid in U.S. Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico. Other exclusions apply. Combined billing & discount may take Content varies by device, TV plan and viewing location. Data charges may apply. ©2015 AT&T Intellectual Property. DIRECTV is a registered trademark of DIRECTV, LLC. AT&T, the AT&T logo and all owners. TBS is a trademark of Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved.

Editor's Note

HAVE EMBARRASSING TV STORIES LIKE MINE? TWEET THEM TO @HenryGoldblatt



Fall TV Preview:

NOW EVEN TV-IER!

Hey TV fans, this one's for you. You're holding our biggest issue in nine(!) years—and for the first time in EW history, we've devoted the *entire* magazine to scoop and features covering the new TV season.



(Clockwise from above) *Ally McBeal*, *Beverly Hills 90210*, and *Hotel*

MY LONGEST—and most codependent—relationship is with my TV and the characters who live inside it. Consider:

- When I was a kid, I told my parents I wanted to become a hotel manager because *Hotel*'s Connie Sellecca and James Brolin were the most glamorous people I had ever seen.
- No, wait, working on a ship as a cruise director who meddles in people's love lives is a MUCH more fulfilling job.
- I grew sideburns. (Thanks, Brandon Walsh.)
- Billy from *Melrose Place* was my career guru. Faced with a bleak journalism job market after college, I begged for an interview at an ad agency, thinking if poor, sweet, dumb Billy could switch from magazine journalism to advertising, I could too. Poor, sweet, dumb Billy was actually more qualified than I, because I was laughed out the door.
- Ally McBeal and I started wearing microminis around the same time. (JK: I don't have the legs to pull them off.)

At any rate, you get the (sad, sad) picture. When I returned to EW earlier this year, I wanted to provide all of you fellow TV addicts with a keepsake that is as rich and special as the medium it covers. The result is the first in EW's 25-year history: a regular issue entirely devoted to TV.

First off, you'll probably notice the issue "feels" different—more like a monthly mag. That's because it's "perfect bound" (industry-speak for a publication with a spine)—and at 160 pages, it's the biggest issue of EW in nine years due to the efforts of our stellar ad-sales team led by publisher **Ellie Duque** and VP **Lana LoRusso**, as well as associate publisher of marketing **Christy Bellina**.

I hope you'll enjoy what you find inside, too: Over the past few months, our TV writers have visited sets all across the globe to bring you intel on more than 100 shows. You've seen teases of their work during our #50Scoops50Days campaign. (Miss any of them? Go to *ew.com/50scoops50days*.)

But as you dig in, you'll find out even more: Will *Empire*'s Lucious Lyon remain in jail? There's so much murder—how do Annalise Keating and her crew get away with it? Did the Flash succeed in closing the wormhole? You'll also be introduced to a host of new characters: a tattooed woman emerging from a duffel bag; John Stamos as a (gulp!) grandfather; and Supergirl. Special thanks to deputy editor **Meeta Agrawal** and senior editor **Gillian Telling**, who expertly packaged the issue into one of the best we've ever produced.

If you are looking for your usual dose of Movies, Books, Music, and Stage reviews and news, please check EW.com regularly as well as our social feeds: @EW on Twitter, @entertainmentweekly on Facebook and Instagram, and @EWsnaps on Snapchat. We'll be back with your regularly scheduled programming in two weeks.

Henry

HENRY GOLDBLATT

GOLDBLATT: PHOTOGRAPH BY MILLER MOBLEY; *ALLY MCBEAL*: FOX BROADCASTING/PHOTOFEST; *BEVERLY HILLS 90210*: DIEGO UCHITEL/FOX; *HOTEL*: ABC PHOTO ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES


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Entertainment Weekly at 25



1990 Sherilyn Fenn and Kyle MacLachlan on *Twin Peaks*



1991 Christina Applegate on *Married... With Children*



1992 Jerry Seinfeld on *Seinfeld*



1993 Heather Locklear on *Melrose Place*



1994 Laura Leighton on *Melrose Place*



1995 Courteney Cox on *Friends*



1996 Julia Louis-Dreyfus on *Seinfeld*



1997 Kirstie Alley on *Veronica's Closet*

25 YEARS OF TUNING IN

September's arrival doesn't just mean back to school—it also heralds the return of fall TV. And to celebrate EW's milestone year, we dug through the archives to find the stars and shows that have graced the covers of our annual special issue. Some were instant classics (*Twin Peaks*), others were duds (*Joey*), and some still have us on the edge of our seats (*Homeland*).



1998 The cast of *Dawson's Creek*



1999 Jennifer Love Hewitt on *Time of Your Life*



2000 Yasmine Bleeth on *Titans*



2001 Sarah Michelle Gellar on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*



2002 Jennifer Garner on *Alias*



2003 Alicia Silverstone on *Miss Match*



2004 Drea de Matteo and Matt LeBlanc on *Joey*



2005 Matthew Fox on *Lost*



2006 Patrick Dempsey on *Grey's Anatomy*



2007 Kate Walsh on *Private Practice*



2008 Ed Westwick and Leighton Meester on *Gossip Girl*



2009 Anna Torv and Joshua Jackson on *Fringe*



2010 Starring *30 Rock*, *Glee*, and *The Big Bang Theory*



2011 Starring *Modern Family*, *The Good Wife*, and *Pan Am*



2012 Claire Danes and Damian Lewis on *Homeland*



2013 Starring *Scandal*, *New Girl*, and *Mom*



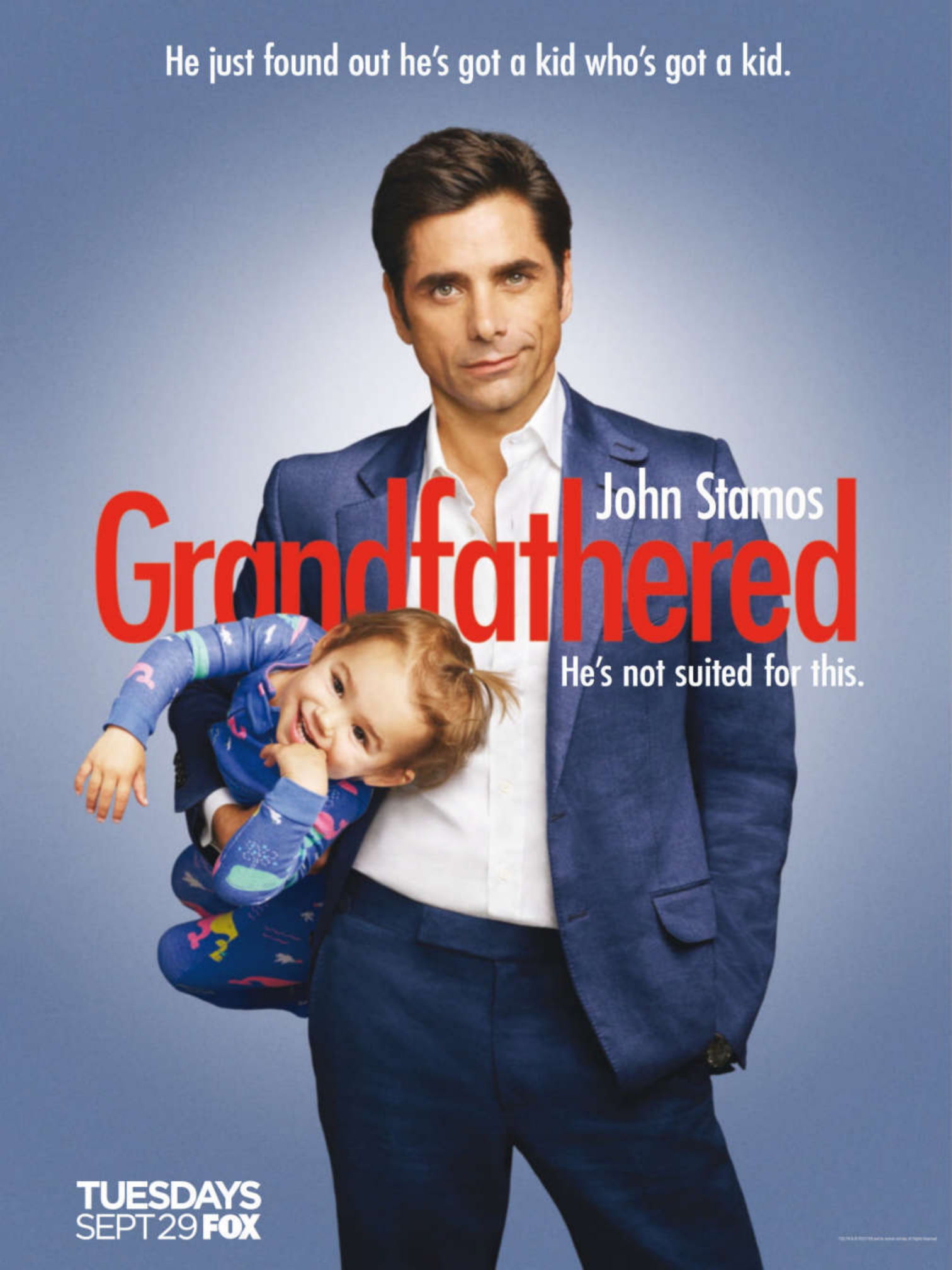
2014 Starring *How to Get Away With Murder* and *The Comeback*



MONDAYS
SEPT 21 FOX

DC COMICS


THEY SEE THE FUTURE.
SHE STOPS THE CRIME.
BASED ON THE HIT FILM BY STEVEN SPIELBERG
MINORITY REPORT
MONDAYS
SEPT 21 FOX


He just found out he's got a kid who's got a kid.
John Stamos
Grandfathered
He's not suited for this.
TUESDAYS
SEPT 29 FOX

ROB LOWE FRED SAVAGE

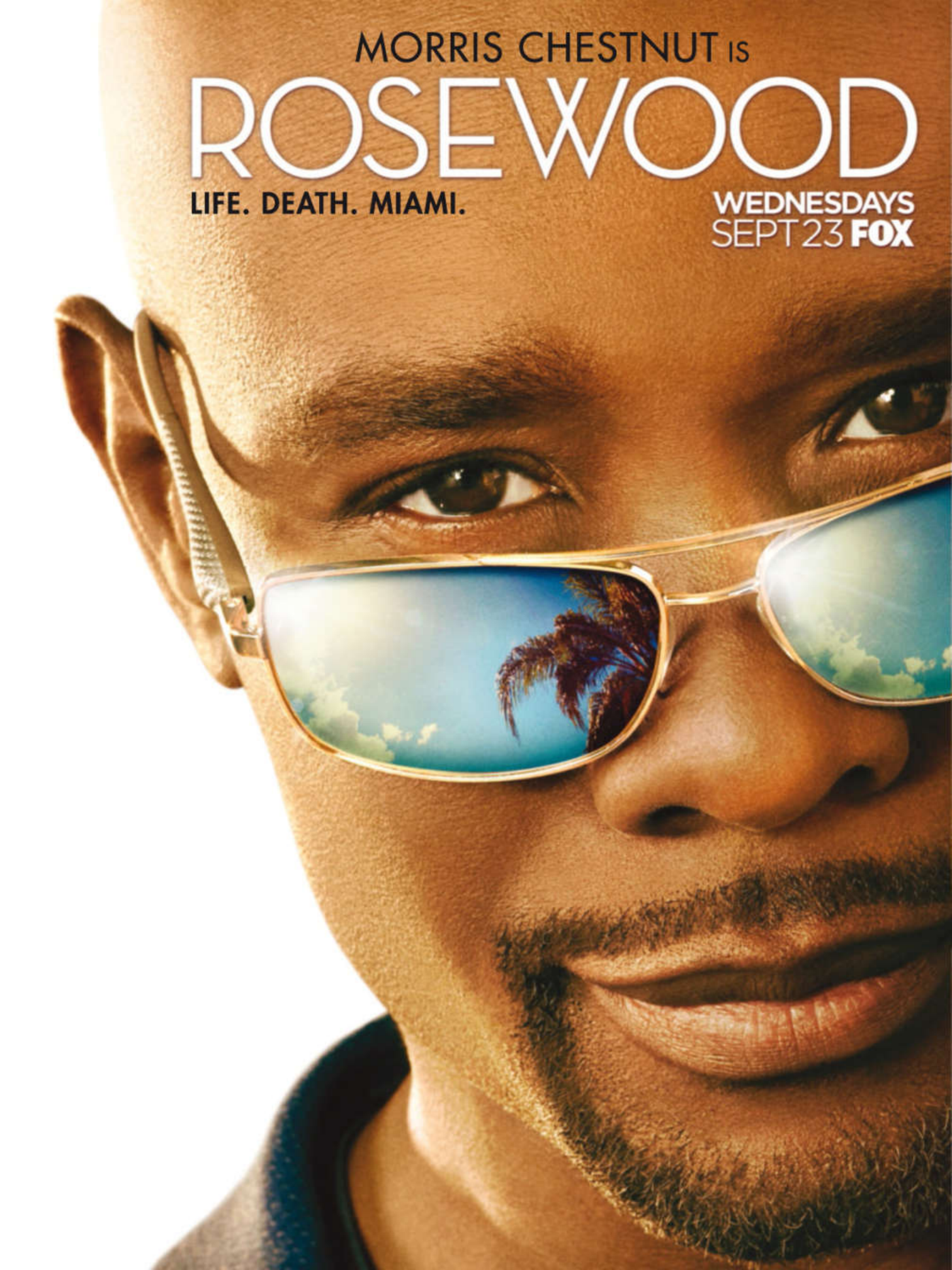
Two brothers. One's a lawyer. The other played one on TV.



TUESDAYS
SEPT 29 **FOX**


LEA MICHELE
ARIANA GRANDE
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– ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY
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WEDNESDAYS
SEPT 23 FOX



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FALL TV PREVIEW

Fall TV Preview

SUMMER'S OVER? WHO CARES?! IT'S FALL TV TIME AGAIN, AND WE'VE GOT ALL THE SCOOP ON **115 OF THE BEST NEW AND RETURNING SHOWS**. SO SETTLE IN AND GET COMFY, BECAUSE *EVERY* NIGHT IS A GOOD TV NIGHT THIS SEASON.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	STREAMING
P32	P56	P78	P104	P121	P134	P140	P144

PLUS OUR CRITICS PICK THE SIX NEW SHOWS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS (PAGE 153), AND WE ROUND UP ALL THE ACTION IN ONE VERY CONVENIENT INDEX (PAGE 157)

(COVER) *DOCTOR WHO*: SIMON RIDGWAY/BBC; *SCREAM QUEENS*: JILL GREENBERG/FOX; *EMPIRE*: PHOTOGRAPH BY MARC HOM; *BEST TIME EVER*: ROBERT TRACHTENBERG/NBC; *THE WALKING DEAD*: PHOTOGRAPH BY DYLAN COULTER; *SCANDAL*: PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES WHITE; *AMERICAN HORROR STORY: HOTEL*: PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHEAL AVEDON; *THE MUPPETS*: BOB D'AMICO/ABC; *GRANDFATHERED*: MAARTEN DE BOER/GETTY IMAGES; *THE FLASH*: JORDON NUTTALL/THE CW; *SUPERGIRL*: MATTHIAS CLAMER/CBS (2); *ASH VS EVIL DEAD*: MATT KLITSCHER/STARZ

FALL TV PREVIEW

SUNDAY

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Claire Danes



Homeland

OCT. 4 ◢ 9 P.M. ◢ *SHOWTIME*
SEASON 5



Rupert Friend (right)

THE GERMANS HAVE A SAYING FOR GUYS LIKE RUPERT FRIEND. TECH-nically, "Das war eine schwere geburt" means "a difficult birth," but it's also muttered when someone is being a pain in the neck. In this case, we are talking about the British actor—who, just before his EW interview, has vanished somewhere in Berlin.

Production on the fifth season of *Homeland* is already well under way in the German capital, but Friend, who plays enigmatic CIA henchman Peter Quinn, doesn't want to surface for any reason other than work. That includes meeting with a visiting U.S. journalist.

Eventually, Friend agrees to a brief chat—but only just before his 10 p.m. call time and while he's in the makeup chair. (*Scheisse.*) "If I'm off, I'm off," he says by way of explanation.

Maybe it's a Method thing. After briefly locking lips with commitment-phobe Carrie Mathison (Claire Danes) last season, Quinn made himself scarce in the finale by fleeing on a secret mission to Syria. But if you recall, no one got a happy ending in those final episodes: A terrorist gunned down scores of Americans at the U.S. embassy in Pakistan in an effort to obtain a top secret list of undercover operatives; Saul Berenson (Mandy Patinkin) made a deal with the devil (or in this case, CIA black-ops director Dar Adal, played by F. Murray Abraham) to reassume his old role as CIA director; and Carrie ended up walking away from the job she loved. "She realized the war was really chaotic and kind of futile, and there was no way of making sense of the human cost," Danes explains.

> ***"WE WANTED TO GET BACK IN THE CONVERSATION. WE WANTED TO REINVENT IT IN THE WAY* THE WIRE *REINVENTED ITSELF EVERY SEASON."***
>
> —ALEX GANSA

But something good did come from all the despair: After getting snubbed at last year's Emmys for its creatively uneven third season, *Homeland* is back on track with its fourth nom in the Outstanding Drama category and two-time winner Danes up for another Lead Actress statue come Sept. 20. "We wanted to get back in the conversation," says executive producer Alex Gansa of writing a post-Brody *Homeland*. "We knew we had an opportunity to do it because we were resetting the show. We wanted to reinvent it in the way *The Wire* reinvented itself every season and became a different story. It put a nice big puff of fresh air in our sails this season."

Filming in Berlin represents an exciting shift for the series. Not only is *Homeland* (surprisingly) the first American TV series ever to film there, it also marks the only time in the drama's four-year history that its location is authentic. "It's quite refreshing," says Friend. "We shot Pakistan, Islamabad, and Kabul in South Africa. I still have people who genuinely don't believe that we weren't in Pakistan. But now we can look wherever we want, and it's actually Berlin."

It also offers lots of fresh story ideas. During the producers' annual trip to Washington, D.C., to meet with current and former intelligence officers, it was stressed that if they wanted the show to stay relevant, they should

(PREVIOUS SPREAD AND THIS PAGE) STEPHAN RABOLD/SHOWTIME (2)

look toward Germany with its strict privacy laws. "All the Snowdenistas are there. There's a WikiLeaks presence there. Everybody congregates in Berlin and Germany because the privacy laws are way stricter than they are in the United States," says Gansa. "It's tough to spy on people in Germany. There's also the fact that Russia is right next door and everybody talks about how dangerous Putin is right now. And, of course, the Islamic State is recruiting fighters from all those areas."

The action this season picks up two years after the embassy disaster in Islamabad, with Carrie having exiled herself and daughter Frannie to Berlin. She found an attractive attorney to date (*Inglourious Basterds*' Alexander Fehling), and has a lofty job as a head of security for billionaire philanthropist Otto Düring (Sebastian Koch). "Carrie is in a very different place. She is really happy," explains Danes. "She's very connected to her daughter, in a really stable and balanced relationship with a German lawyer, and in a very grounded place for about five minutes and then... Yeah, it just all goes to hell."

Conflict arises when one of Düring's WikiLeaks-like companies acquires hacked data proving that the CIA is spying in Germany. That brings Saul to Berlin, and together with CIA station chief Allison Carr (Miranda Otto), he tries to make nice with the German government. Negotiating a new peace accord with Carrie, however, seems to be an impossible mission. "Saul and I are pretty estranged at the end of last season," says Danes. "I'm in a very awkward position, because at the Düring Foundation there are a lot of very progressive, very liberal thinkers, and they are incredibly suspicious of the CIA. I'm flagged, even though I've left that world. And the CIA sees me as someone who's betrayed, abandoned, and rejected them. So I'm criticized from both sectors."

Quinn also reemerges from oblivion to embark on one of those mystery missions in the country. Something happens that puts Quinn in the position to once again protect Carrie, but Danes is loath to suggest a romance may be rekindled along the Potsdamer Platz. "They are very close and so similar. They are real iconoclasts and outliers," says Danes. "There are a lot of different kinds of romance, but I don't think theirs would ever translate into a lasting, monogamous, happy relationship. But they are always shooting each other and saving each other!"

Friend has even less encouraging words for fans who believe the duo should be together. "He was resolute in closing that chapter of his life and taking solace in the thing that he takes solace in when he doesn't understand anything else—which is his work," Friend says. "We all know people like that, who retreat into their work." With that, it's time for Friend to do the same. Quinn needs to get to set. He, once again, seems eager to disappear. —LYNETTE RICE

PATRICK MCELHENNEY/FOX

WHY YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

The Last Man on Earth

SEASON 2 | 9:30 P.M. | *FOX*



Will Forte and Kristen Schaal

FOX'S POSTAPOCALYPTIC COMEDY ABOUT PHIL MILLER (WILL FORTE), AN UNDERACHIEVING DUDE CAST ADRIFT IN A VIRTUALLY PEOPLELESS WORLD, MADE FOR ONE OF LAST SEASON'S COMPELLING OFFBEAT HITS. IF YOU MISSED IT, HERE ARE THREE GOOD REASONS TO GO TO THE END OF THE EARTH TO CATCH IT. —DAN SNIERSON

1 TOTAL WISH FULFILLMENT

Sure, it blows when your friends and family are among the billions wiped out by a virus, but on the plus side, the world is your playground. Phil constantly takes advantage of the situation, whether by hanging art swiped from museums on his walls or taking a flamethrower to a mound of toilet paper, or even just lounging in a margarita-filled kiddie pool. "We have a real doozy lined up for the first scene back," promises Forte.

2 THEY GO TO SPACE!

The season 1 finale ended with a zero-gravity question mark, as we saw Phil's astronaut brother (Jason Sudeikis) floating around in space. "He's been up in space for a while," says Forte. "I have to do a little fact-checking, but I don't think you have an unlimited supply of oxygen or food up there, so at a certain point, if I was up in space, I'd start realizing that it's not a sustainable situation and make some big, scary decisions."

3 PHIL AND CAROL: TV'S BEST WEIRD COUPLE

Thinking that she was the only woman left, Phil married oddball Carol (Kristen Schaal). Then they divorced. Now they're back together. "They're very set in their ways, but this season they're trying to meet in the middle," says Forte. Where do we find them in the premiere? "I'll just say Phil and Carol are doing things that no decent Americans should be doing to the White House." SEPT. 27

SUNDAY TV

The Affair

SEASON 2 | OCT. 4 | 10 P.M. | SHOWTIME



Ruth Wilson and Dominic West

The Affair started off examining just how differently two people—Noah (Dominic West) and Alison (Ruth Wilson)—remember a fraught shared history (which, of course, involved an actual affair). Get ready for things to become even more complicated in season 2. "We've divided it into four different points of views" explains creator Sarah Treem, who says that the decision to add the perspectives of both exes, Cole (Joshua Jackson) and Helen (Maura Tierney), evolved naturally. "It was partly inspired by how good Josh and Maura are. And as writers, we were hungry for it. I just really wanted to get inside their heads."

The four different perspectives will merge at the end when, Treem promises, the central mystery of who killed Scott Lockhart will be solved. "We'll also discover the consequences to that murder and find out who goes down for it." So what does *The Affair* look like told through yet another point of view? Treem shared a script page from the upcoming season.

—SARA VILKOMERSON

THE AFFAIR #201 Full Pink 05/17/15

CONTINUED:



HELEN
Thank you Max. For being there tonight.

Helen will be experiencing a new romance this season with Max (Josh Stamberg). "We'll get to see a side of the marriage that you never saw from Noah's point of view because he had such guilt about what he did," says Treem. "Helen is a much more complicated character than you may have initially thought."

Max smiles at her again with the light of a thousand stars.



MAX
My pleasure.

He ascends the steps, carefully, gallantly - like the prince offering Cinderella her shoe - then puts his arms around Helen's waist and lifts her into another VERY ROMANTIC KISS.

INT. SOLLOWAY BROWNSTONE - HELEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 43

Helen creeps softly into her bedroom, kicks off her draconian heels with a soft moan, and rubs her abused feet. She is finally alone. She sits down heavily on the bed. She wishes she could just fall back into the mattress and sleep until she's dead.

As she turns her head to remove her earrings, something catches her eye. A RECTANGLE of empty wall space. Brighter, somehow, than the rest of the wall.

It is, of course, the space behind Noah's painting, where the sun never hit and faded the paint. The effect is somewhat ghostly. As if Noah has left a SPECTER of a painting in his wake.

Helen stares at the rectangle, transfixed. Unable to move. She can't understand how life seems to be preceding without her consent.

The windows are being PUMMELED with water. Outside, the STORM that Noah didn't notice, has finally arrived.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - HOLDING CELL ENTRANCE - DAY A44

JON GOTTLIEF (50s) and Helen approach the Young Guard stationed outside a security door. Helen is holding a dry cleaning bag.

We're now in the future present, where we meet Noah's lawyer Jon Gottlief (Richard Schiff). If it's hard keeping the present (the affair) and the future present (detective interviews) straight, just imagine the writers' room. "We have this big grid on the wall," Treem says. "It's all 12 episodes at the top and columns for each character in both the present and the future present. It's fun."



GOTTLIEF
Jon Gottlief, counselor to Noah Solloway.

The Guard checks his records.

GUARD
Go ahead.

MARK SCHAFER/SHOWTIME (4)



Even one episode of boredom is too much, so let the all-new Hyundai Tucson grab your attention instead. From its dynamic design to its available 8-inch touchscreen and 7-speed EcoShift® Dual Clutch Transmission, the Hyundai Tucson is the SUV that's equipped to make every trip an exciting one.

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HYUNDAI Tucson

SUNDAY

NEW + RETURNING



America's Funniest Home Videos

SEASON 26 | 7 P.M. | *ABC*

Other people's pain is Alfonso Ribeiro's gain when the *Dancing With the Stars* champ becomes the new host of our nation's never-ending blooper reel. How will his hosting vibe differ from Tom Bergeron's 15-year run? "Hip, fun, stylish," Ribeiro says. And more important, which videos make him laugh hardest? "The epic fails," he says, "when someone puts a plan in motion and things go very wrong." Okay, Alfonso, rank these clips: Gibbon rips toupee off man's head, guy wakes up to giant (fake) spider on arm, woman dancing on table crashes to floor. "The woman crashing," he says. "You chose wrong because you're on a table. When you fall, that's funny. I can relate to the spider on the arm because I don't like spiders. The [gibbon] is third, but it's funny because I don't understand the toupee thing. Bald is cool now. Why you got a toupee, man? If it gets ripped off and you're freaking out, that's on you." **OCT. 11**

Madam Secretary

SEASON 2 | 8 P.M. | *CBS*

Don't expect any rest for Elizabeth "Bess" McCord (Téa Leoni): In the season premiere of the political drama, Air Force One disappears and the secretary of state's office goes into overdrive to find it. If that's not stressful enough, national security adviser Craig Sterling (guest star Julian Acosta) doesn't exactly buddy up to Madam. "He's going to provide a real challenge to Elizabeth's authority," says exec producer Barbara Hall. Other conflicts will continue far away and close to home. Tensions grow in Russia, while McCord's daughter Stevie (Wallis Currie-Wood) pursues a romance with the president's son, Harrison (Jason Ralph). "They decide to keep their relationship a secret from both families," says Hall. "Complications ensue when their romantic involvement coincides with some tricky political situations." At least Bess can look forward to fun visitors this season: Former secretary of state Madeleine Albright and actor Morgan Freeman, an EP on the drama, will make cameos. **OCT. 4**

BOB'S BURGERS

SEASON 6 | 7:30 P.M. | *FOX*

In the premiere episode, the unthinkable happens: "Bob is losing his mustache," creator Loren Bouchard says. "This is a real thing. You can actually go mustache-bald. It's a mystery as to why." Along with the facial-hair loss this season, Aziz Ansari and Zach Galifianakis will be reprising their characters, and Paul Rudd, Steve Buscemi, and Henry Winkler will make their *Bob's* debuts. "Winkler plays a mall Santa in our Christmas episode," Bouchard reveals. "Buscemi is a lawyer. And we get to meet Tina's imaginary horse, Jericho, voiced by Paul Rudd." Cue the Tina moan! **SEPT. 27**

BOB'S BURGERS: FOX; *THE LEFTOVERS*: VAN REDIN/HBO

HOW TO...

CONTINUE AN ADAPTATION WHEN THE BOOK HAS ENDED

The Leftovers

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | *HBO*



Justin Theroux, Carrie Coon, and Scott Glenn

Just because *The Leftovers* is changing its setting doesn't mean it will be a different show, according to showrunner Damon Lindelof. "If you didn't like season 1, you're not going to like season 2, either," he says bluntly. "Sorry." Still, the upcoming changes sound promising. With the story lines from author Tom Perrotta's novel covered in season 1, the Garveys (led by Justin Theroux) will move from New York to a small Texas town, dubbed Miracle, that's had zero Sudden Departures—but just as they're settling in, somebody in the town vanishes. The result is a season with more narrative urgency, but one that's decidedly less bleak than the first, explains Lindelof. It will also remain a character-driven show—there are no cliff-hangers, fate-of-the-world stakes, or real answers to why 2 percent of the population has disappeared. The characters will nonetheless generate theories about why some people vanished but Miracle was spared—just don't expect any of those ideas to actually be correct. **OCT. 4**

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Follow *@TheAmyBrenneman* for plot insight



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The Simpsons

SEASON 27 | 8 P.M. | *FOX*

No, Homer and Marge are not getting divorced. But they will legally separate in the premiere. "It's different than anything we've done," says *Simpsons* exec producer Al Jean, who reveals that Homer falls for a pharmacist (Lena Dunham) who is "forward and funny and interested in people who have big bags of prescription drugs." Elsewhere, Bart crushes on his new teacher (Sofia Vergara), Lisa helps launch a homeless woman's music career, and in the annual Halloween episode, Sideshow Bob finally realizes his dream of killing Bart. "Unlike a James Bond villain, Bob doesn't waste any time," notes Jean. "When he gets the opportunity, he does it." **SEPT. 27**

Brooklyn Nine-Nine

SEASON 3 | 8:30 P.M. | *FOX*

It ended with the moment viewers had been waiting for: Jake (Andy Samberg) and Amy (Melissa Fumero) confessed their feelings for each other and sealed it with a kiss. So what now? "They are definitely going to explore what the kiss meant," creator Dan Goor says. But it won't be easy. "They attempt to go on a first date, but it's not something that naturally happens for them," Fumero says. "There's still going to be the Jake and Amy that tease each other, so it's going to be full of obstacles. But really funny." **SEPT. 27**

Family Guy

SEASON 14 | 9 P.M. | *FOX*

How are producers making the next go-round of Seth MacFarlane's animated series as compelling as seasons past? By bringing back old favorites (like James Woods and Frank Sinatra Jr.) while attracting a new slew of visitors to Quahog, including Peter's estranged sister, played by Kate McKinnon. "We learn that she's actually a professional wrestler," explains EP Steve Callaghan. As for the Griffins, this season features Chris' mishap with sexting, Brian and Stewie's Adderall binge, and Peter and Lois' attempt at stage parenting. The burning question: Will Peter battle any more poultry? Says Callaghan, "There's always a chance." **SEPT. 27**

ONCE UPON A TIME

SEASON 5 | 8 P.M. | *ABC*

Sometimes it's good to be bad—as Emma (Jennifer Morrison) will learn when she transforms into the Dark Swan this season. "She is capable of being manipulative, conniving, and vindictive," Morrison says. EP Edward Kitsis adds, "We'll learn who the original Dark One was and why there is even a Dark One to begin with." As Storybrooke struggles without its savior, Snow (Ginnifer Goodwin) and Charming (Josh Dallas) kick off a quest to find Merlin in Camelot. As for Dark Swan's predecessor, Mr. Gold (Robert Carlyle) may revert to his cowardly ways. "The person he was before the knife might rear its head," says Kitsis. Good thing *Brave*'s Merida is on her way! **SEPT. 27**



Robert Carlyle and Jennifer Morrison

CSI

FINALE | 9 P.M. | *CBS*

After 15 seasons and more than 300 episodes, the crime drama bids farewell with a two-hour finale. We asked some original cast members to share their favorite times behind the yellow tape. **SEPT. 27**



Paul Guilfoyle and Marg Helgenberger



William Petersen

GIL GRISSOM

"Nobody had a template for it. Even [then president of CBS television] Les Moonves was like, 'I don't get it, you are going to dust for fingerprints? That's the show?' Well, yeah. It was all about the evidence. Nobody knew what we were doing."



Robert David Hall

DR. AL ROBBINS

"I fought for 15 years to get out of that morgue. I had 5 episodes out of 345 that featured my character solely. But that's okay. My job was to pull the bullet out of some guy's ass and say, 'He went thataway.' I got all of the 10-syllable dialogue."



Marg Helgenberger

CATHERINE WILLOWS

"I vividly remember Billy's last episode and our last scene, which we kind of ad-libbed. I became an emotional wreck. I felt like the bottom dropped out. I had spent a lot of time with him and a lot of late nights in these funky locations. We really connected."



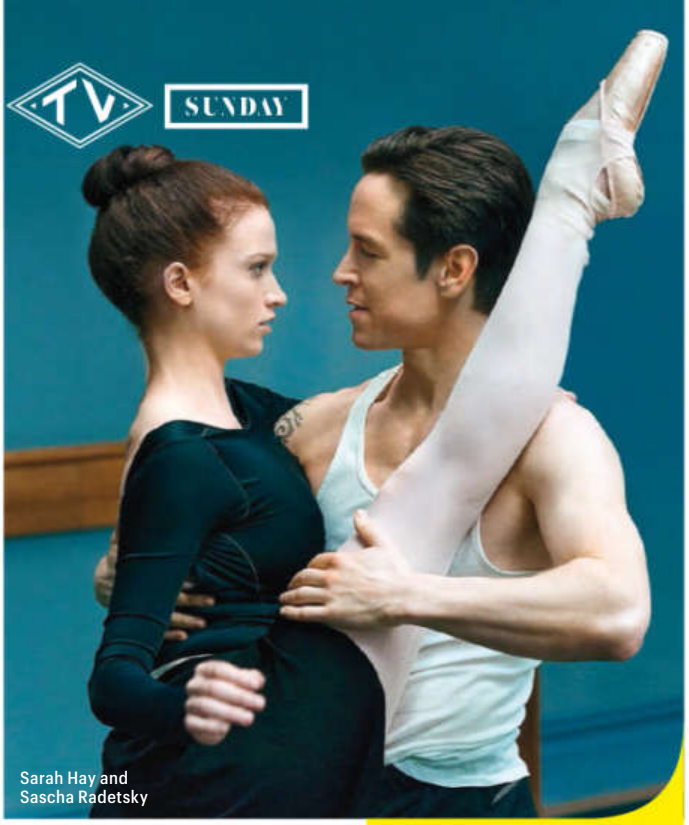
Paul Guilfoyle

CAPTAIN JIM BRASS

"We never got any respect. We were always way out in Santa Clarita, working in a place that was a warehouse for spare parts. While we were shooting, these people had a PA system. A woman would go, 'Bob, your wife is calling on line 3' during our scenes."

ONCE UPON A TIME: JACK ROWAND/ABC; CSI: SONJA FLEMMING/CBS; PETERSEN: ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY IMAGES; HALL: DAVID A. WALEGA/WIREIMAGE.COM; HELGENBERGER: JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES; GUILFOYLE: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM

TV SUNDAY



Sarah Hay and Sascha Radetsky

Indian Summers

NEW DRAMA | 9 P.M. | *PBS*

What happens when you transport a *Downton Abbey*'s worth of British high society to the Himalayas? According to this U.K. import: Murder! Romance! Political intrigue! The handsomely shot series centers on a group of British rulers and their socialite companions trying to hold on to their snooty English values and views of "civility" in 1930s colonial India. And while there is an assassination attempt in the first episode, creator Paul Rutman promises the show won't be just political. "We were trying for a mixture of character, family stories, romantic stories, as well as a political story," he says. Henry Lloyd-Hughes, who plays an imperial officer, elaborates: "One of the exciting things for these people was to go off [to India] and live the dream of empire and live a version of Britishness that was more amplified than anything you could live at home. So in a way, everything is to the max. Everything is sexed up." In other words: We're not in Downton anymore. **SEPT. 27**

CSI: Cyber

SEASON 2 | 10 P.M. | *CBS*

Welcome to *CSI: Cyber* version 2.0, with plenty of software updates. The first? Ted Danson, transferring from the original *CSI* mother ship to join Patricia Arquette's merry band of digital crime fighters. "He's the mad scientist in our show, the tinkerer," says exec producer Pam Veasey. "Just imagine Shad Moss [formerly known as Lil' Bow Wow] giving Ted Danson's character advice

FLESH AND BONE

NEW DRAMA | 8 P.M. | *STARZ*

Creator Moira Walley-Beckett was on a day off from producing *Breaking Bad* when the inspiration for *Flesh and Bone* struck. "I wanted it to be about obstacles and obsessions," she says of the eight-episode miniseries, which focuses on Claire (Sarah Hay), a ballerina with a past who's navigating the cruel realities of professional dancing. "Everyone knows it's wildly competitive and that you have to be an elite athlete to do it, but I don't think anyone has fully examined the religion of ballet," Walley-Beckett says. It won't be all tulle and pointe shoes, either. "For the people who are looking for *Breaking Bad* Ballet, they'll get it," she says. "It's so very dark and violent, both physically and emotionally." She laughs. "I hope people sit back and go, 'What the f---?'" **NOV. 8**

Q+A

Don Johnson

OF **Blood & Oil**

NEW DRAMA | 9 P.M. | *ABC*

THE FORMER *MIAMI VICE* AND *NASH BRIDGES* STAR, 65, PLAYS A RUTHLESS OIL TYCOON ON THIS NORTH DAKOTA-SET BOOMTOWN DRAMA. WE TALK ABOUT HIS RETURN TO THE SMALL SCREEN AND WHAT BEING AROUND BILLIONAIRES IS *REALLY* LIKE. —CLARK COLLIS

Tell us about your character, Hap Briggs.
Briggs is a throwback to the riverboat gamblers of yore—he sees the world differently. He's hearing a bell of destiny, which is driving him to make America energy-independent. I think Gandhi heard a bell, I think Mandela heard a bell—I'm not so sure that Hap possesses any of their virtues, but when people hear that bell, it is as if nothing is going to alter their course.

What's Hap's relationship with his son Wick (Scott Michael Foster) and his wife, Carla (Amber Valletta)?
As happens in a lot of families where there's a lot of money, entitlements run rampant. That's part of what he's dealing with with his son. His wife...

I've known a lot of these billionaires, and they have the wife. But they also have four or five dalliances on the side.

Is that the case with Briggs?
That may be the case.

Were you looking to return to TV when you got this?
Not particularly. This came along and I said no. Then [*Blood & Oil* EP] Tony Krantz said, "Please let me just come meet with you." I was taken by the passion that everyone had with the project. This is a sprawling, epic prime-time drama. It's full of secrets, double crosses, backstabbing, and sex. The seven deadly sins are on full display!

Sounds like Hollywood.
Well, yeah. There's a lot of riverboat gamblers in Hollywood. **SEPT. 27**



FLESH AND BONE: STARZ; BLOOD & OIL: FRED HAYES/ABC

about dating!" (Done.) Expect a shake-up of the usual *CSI* whodunit format, too. "There will be episodes where the audience knows who the criminal is," says Veasey. "It's more a question of 'How will we catch them?' as opposed to 'Who are they?'" Naturally, expect everything to be super high-tech—and for everything to get hacked. "Our second episode revolves around a dating app that someone's hacked to ruin someone's life. There are dolls that are Wi-Fi enabled. We talk about home security systems, driverless cars," says Veasey. But there will be time for games as well. "There's a Bluetooth basketball!" **OCT. 4**

Doll & Em

SEASON 2 | **10:40 P.M.** | *HBO*

Before Abbi and Ilana, two other broads aced the Bechdel test and made you cringe-laugh on Sunday nights: Emily Mortimer and Dolly Wells, *Doll & Em*'s writers, creators, and stars, who are also BFFs in real life. Their dry, witty Britcom is quietly brilliant—not just because of awesome guest stars like Olivia Wilde, Evan Rachel Wood, and Ewan McGregor. Or even the suggested potential guest stars. "We had one of those weird sort of Hollywood conversations where they try to find a solution to a problem, and the solution is always Jennifer Aniston," says Mortimer. So while there won't be any Aniston in the season ahead, there will be even more meta when the duo co-write a play (about themselves, of course) and try to stage it—and still stay friends. **SEPT. 13**

THE WALKING DEAD

SEASON 6 | **9 P.M.** | *AMC*

With a possible civil war breaking out inside the walls of Alexandria, and the Wolves (plus the zombies) roaming outside, which will prove to be more dangerous for Rick Grimes (Andrew Lincoln) and his gang? "It's coming at them from all sides," says showrunner Scott M. Gimple. "Inside, outside, further outside, in between. There is a web of threats and conflicts within the whole thing." Audiences should brace themselves for intensity and action right off the bat. "The first three episodes are especially rather unrelenting," says Gimple. "We go for it hard." **OCT. 11**



Andrew Lincoln

MEET THE NEW FACES

The Good Wife

SEASON 7 | **9 P.M.** | *CBS*

Get ready for Good Wife: The New Class. After being forced to abdicate the state's-attorney job, Alicia (Julianna Margulies) is starting over. "Paradoxically, she finds this frees her," explains EP Michelle King. "She's controlling her own fate." Here are the new players about to enter her inner circle. **OCT. 4**



Julianna Margulies and Chris Noth



Lucca Quinn

CUSH JUMBO

While toiling as a bar attorney in Chicago's bond court, Alicia meets this hardworking bond attorney who has yet to be seduced by—or have any interest in joining—a large firm. "She has no sense that she's in the wrong place [for her background]," says King, who adds cryptically that Lucca and Alicia "will have a relationship."



Jason Crouse

JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN

Now that Kalinda Sharma is history, Alicia is in need of a good investigator. Enter Jason, a clever gumshoe who's not above using some muscle to get what he wants. "I think it's safe to say she may notice his charm," says King.



Ruth Eastman

MARGO MARTINDALE

This folksy political operator is brought on to help with Peter Florrick's presidential campaign. "Every year we look for a character and an actor who can go toe-to-toe with Eli Gold and make him blink, so we were thrilled when Margo agreed to play her," says King.

@

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THE WALKING DEAD: GENE PAGE/AMC; THE GOOD WIFE: PAUL SARKIS/CBS; JUMBO: WALTER MCBRIDE/WIREIMAGE.COM; MORGAN: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES; MARTINDALE: JEFFREY MAYER/WIREIMAGE.COM


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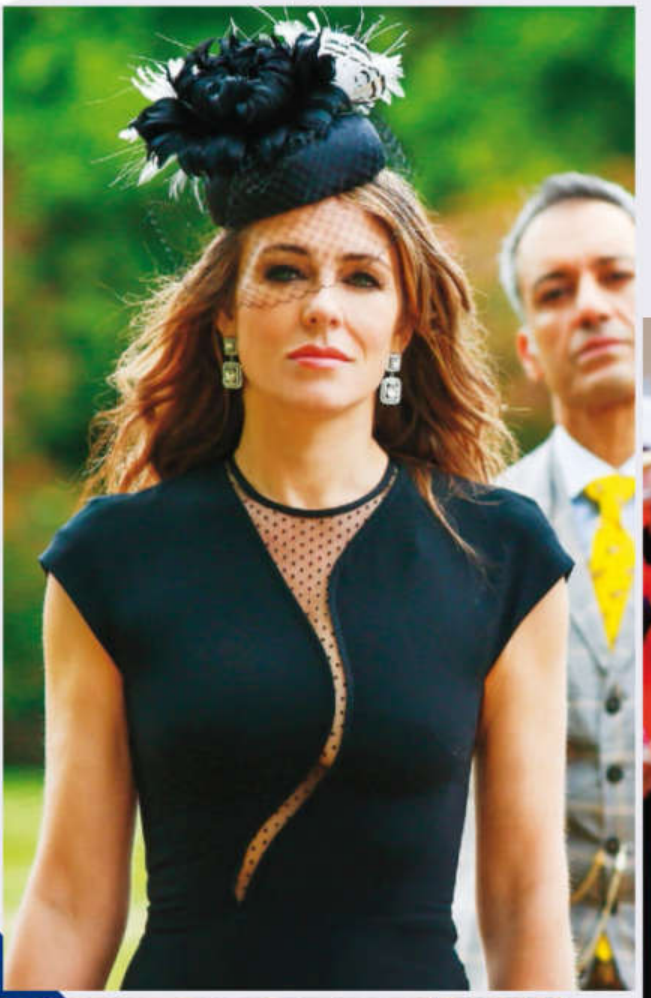
The Royals

SEASON 2 | NOV. 15 | 10 P.M. | E!

The King is dead. Long live the (morally dubious yet sartorially resplendent) King! The monarchical melodrama will pick up two months after Simon's murder—and the ascendancy of dastardly brother Cyrus (Jake Maskall). "It's definitely a new regime," says creator and EP Mark Schwahn. One constant? The sovereigns' stunning style, which Schwahn broke down for us. —AMY WILKINSON

Queen Helena
ELIZABETH HURLEY

Don't let the grief garb fool you. "The Queen is image first," Schwahn explains. "So whether or not she's in mourning, she wants to appear to be in mourning because that may engender sympathy." And in typical Helena fashion, this Victoria Beckham design is both elegant and sexy, boasting a cleavage-baring sheer panel. "She uses her sex appeal a little bit, and I think that's a nice tool in her arsenal."



Princess Eleanor
ALEXANDRA PARK

After last season's revelation that she and her brother may be illegitimate, Princess Eleanor will struggle to find her place in the palace—and perhaps find purpose in a cause. "You can send messages through style," Schwahn says of her vibrant ASOS frock. "In this case, Eleanor chose to support LGBTQ."





King Cyrus
JAKE MASKALL

Though Cyrus won the game of thrones (for now), he's not going to let his new title dampen his flamboyant style (see: this regally raucous Vivienne Westwood suit). "What I love about him is he embraces the vanity and the excess and the fact that he can have an unlimited wardrobe," Schwahn says. "So that's his ruling style, as well."

HURLEY: E! ENTERTAINMENT; PARK, MASKALL: JIM MARKS/E! ENTERTAINMENT (2)


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Quant

NEW DRAMA | SEPT. 27
10 P.M. | *ABC*



ERIC LIEBOWITZ/ABC

A CROWD HAS GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE New York Public Library, stopping foot traffic on Fifth Avenue, to snap photos of a stunning dark-haired woman who just stepped outside. "Who is it?" a passerby asks, pushing through. Her friend shouts back, "It's Selena Gomez!"

Nope, not even close. It's Priyanka Chopra, one of India's most beloved celebrities (though still a relative unknown in the U.S.) and the lead on ABC's new action thriller *Quantico*. The series focuses on a fresh class of FBI recruits at the titular Virginia academy who, months after their training, become the primary suspects behind a terrorist attack on New York City. Chopra plays Alex Parrish, the recruit found at ground zero of the attack in the show's first scene. She has to fight to prove her innocence (unless, of course, she's actually guilty) by revisiting her time with her fellow trainees—or die trying.

On this Sunday morning, scores of Chopra's loyal fans have tracked her whereabouts and come out in droves to catch her filming a reshoot, hoping for an autograph. "I'll come back, okay?" she tells a fan asking for a selfie. "If I do this with you guys, I'll get in trouble." Considering this is her first time as the lead on a fast-paced action series, the last thing she wants is trouble. "It always makes me nervous when I try something that I haven't done before, so I'm a wreck, honestly," Chopra admits. "I just want to sleep for days when it premieres. I want to shut my door, get under a blanket, and be woken up on Tuesday morning, two days later, so I don't have to go through the process of 'Oh my God, it's going to air' and 'Oh my God, it's this scene' and 'Oh my God, what are people saying?!'"

Chopra may think she faces high stakes, but so do the viewers. As the FBI investigates the bombing, each episode will show the recruits—who include slippery Ryan (Jake McLaughlin), two-faced Nimah (Yasmine Al Massri), wired Simon (Tate Ellington), pious Eric (Brian J. Smith), sharp-eyed Shelby (Johanna Braddy, swapping the glitter of this summer's *UnREAL* for the gunfire of *Quantico*), and cocky Caleb (Graham Rogers)—learning a new lesson at the academy. The show is structured to give those at home the fodder to play FBI

ico





(Above) Tate Ellington, Brian J. Smith, and Yasmine Al Massri; (left) Priyanka Chopra

"THE SHOW IS AS MUCH A SEXY ROMANCE AS IT IS A POLITICAL THRILLER. IT'S LIKE, WHAT WOULD DIE HARD *BE IF IT WAS WEEKLY AND ALSO A SOAP?"*

—JOSHUA SAFRAN

GUY D'ALEMA/ABC

agents themselves, showrunner Joshua Safran says, by using the evidence they see to deduce which character might be the culprit. "We're designing it so the audience will have more information than the characters will," Safran explains. "Everything's connected, and nothing is extraneous, and everything is a clue." Even the academy's heads, Miranda (Aunjanue Ellis) and Liam (Josh Hopkins), have possible targets on their backs. Ellis jokingly suggests viewers take notes as they watch. "Make a chart," she says. "Every week, write down who you think is guilty, who you think is not guilty. People's loyalties are going to change from week to week."

Quantico didn't start out so complex. Safran had initially wanted to do a straightforward action show, for a change of pace from the string of soapy dramas he had been making, like *Smash* and *Gossip Girl*. "I said to myself, 'What can I do that stretches me a little bit? What else do I love?'" he recalls. "I love musicals, I love period pieces, I love soaps, and I love action movies. So I was like, 'Okay, I'll do action.'" But over time the soapy drama trickled back in, along with some of his personal history: Safran had a relative who may have been involved in the CIA, and as he began to write, he wove his own questions about that person into Alex, whose complex family history also haunts her throughout the series. He later rewrote the role with Chopra in mind after the actress, who had a talent holding deal in 2014 with ABC, auditioned. Alex became a character with an international background who spent time living in Mumbai, among other places. The actress



Filming the pilot in New York City

understands what her casting means for TV diversity. "I see this as an opportunity," Chopra says matter-of-factly. "When I grew up, I never saw anyone looking like me on [American] TV. I'm so glad to see a lot more of us on television, whether it's Mindy Kaling or it's Irrfan Khan or Freida Pinto."

But ABC isn't just banking on the series' intricate premise or Chopra's star wattage to attract viewers. The thriller is both knotty *and* naughty—one of the first scenes shows Alex having hot car sex with a stranger mere hours after meeting him. From the time-hopping mystery to the multiethnic ensemble, it's a formula that's worked for the network before, with *How to Get Away With Murder*. "The show is as much a sexy romance as it is a political thriller," Safran explains. "It's like, what would *Die Hard* be if *Die Hard* was weekly and was also a soap?" Alex and the trainees won't be hunting terrorists in Nakatomi Plaza—they're the ones accused of being terrorists, remember?—but Safran promises the body count will be just as staggering. "Oh, they all know they can die at any time," Safran says. (He's not kidding: One recruit eats it by the end of the pilot.)

Yet, like the viewers, the cast is in the dark about their fates. On a Monday afternoon in Montreal's national library, which has been dressed to look like an academy classroom, they're restless as they prepare to film. Rogers walks over to Safran and pointedly asks where his character heads in the season. Safran just laughs. He knows the terrorist's identity—he knew it when he pitched the show—and says the reveal will likely happen before the season concludes. And if the series succeeds, Safran has more twisty plots up his sleeve for FBI trainees to tackle. "I see several years of it, where we're constantly bringing in new people, new recruits," he says. "It's important to me that the series every year has a new event. It's like, if this is *Die Hard*, season 2 is *Die Hard*er." Look out, Bruce Willis: Priyanka Chopra could steal your terrorist-hunting, action-hero crown.

If she survives the season, that is. After shooting a brutal fight scene the night before, the actress has been limping her way across the Montreal set while the rest of the cast rush to their places. "I'm so sore right now," Chopra says. "I'm walking like a 90-year-old." She laughs. "Way to go, being an action star!" Hey, even action stars need training. —SHIRLEY LI

***SUNDAY* WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** NATALIE ABRAMS, DANA ROSE FALCONE, DARREN FRANICH, JAMES HIBBERD, DANIELLE NUSSBAUM, RAY RAHMAN, LYNETTE RICE, DALTON ROSS, DAN SNIERSON, AMANDA STEINER, AND SARA VILKOMERSON

BREAKING BIG

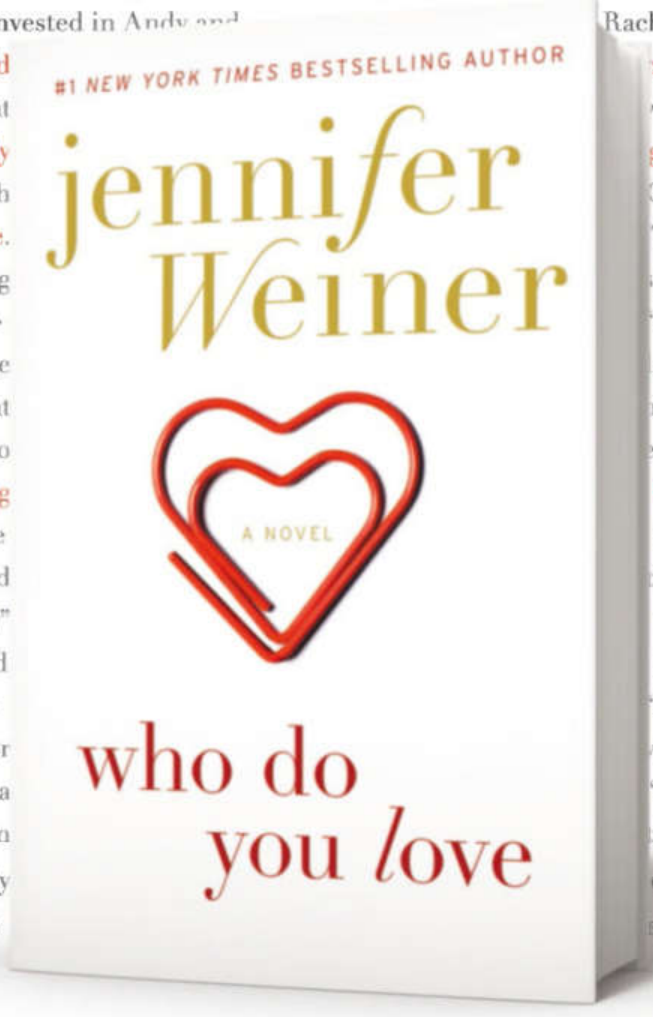
PRIYANKA CHOPRA

Priyanka Chopra's career may be just heating up Stateside, but in her native India her stardom is something akin to Angelina Jolie's—she's one of the country's highest-profile (and highest-paid) actresses and has won a National Film Award, the equivalent of an Oscar, for Best Actress. But being a megastar was never part of her plan—it wasn't until she won the Miss World competition at age 18 that she even thought about acting. "I wanted to be an engineer," Chopra, 33, says. "I didn't understand the magnitude of [winning]. I thought of it as a day at the races." But the offers came pouring in, and it turned out she was a natural. Chopra's since starred in more than 40 Bollywood films, hosted the Indian version of *Fear Factor*, and released several hit singles. Nabbing the role of FBI trainee–turned–possible terrorist Alex Parrish on *Quantico* means she'll be the first Bollywood actress to star on American television, but Chopra's not concerned about becoming a household name yet—she just wants a challenging part. "I never thought of my roles as a step to anywhere," she says. "It's not about furthering my career—it's a way of life."



QUANTICO: ERIC LIEBOWITZ/ABC; CHOPRA: CRAIG SJODIN/ABC

"Perfectly realized…A moving story of love that spans a lifetime." —*Kirkus Reviews* · "Readers will find themselves laughing, crying, and hoping right along with the pair." —*Booklist* (starred review) · "It's a rare novel that takes me in so that all I want to do is read until I get to the end, and that is what this one did." —Joanne T., New York · "Weiner's brilliantly written novel will capture your heart." —*Library Journal* (starred review) · "I loved this book and didn't want it to end. I immediately started rereading the minute I finished." —Suki W., Massachusetts · "Phenomenal. One of my favorite books of the year." —Caitlin C., New Jersey · "I cannot recommend this novel too highly: it is superb." —Patricia B., Georgia · "Overwhelmingly this is an affecting novel about how people carry the heavy burdens that came with their lives." —*The Philadelphia Inquirer* · "I just finished it and I want to read it again. Beautiful story. Loved every page." —Rachel H., Ohio · "I'm not ready to say goodbye to Andy and Rachel." —Sara V., Washington · "A tale of love against the odds." —*People* · "A must-read roller-coaster romance that proves we can't choose whom we love." —*New York Post* · "Read it obsessively last night. I already miss Rachel and Andy so much, I think I might start over again." —Jane K., Tennessee · "It's *The Fault in Our Stars* all grown-up." —*Glamour* · "It's like *One Day* meets *When Harry Met Sally*." —*The Skimm* · "The only author that can make my stomach hurt, my heart hurt, make me cry and laugh.... all while reading the same book." —Marylynn D., Maryland · "Weiner's achingly real characters keep readers engaged all the way through." —*Publishers Weekly* · "I am writing to tell you how much joy you have brought to my life. I am so invested in Andy and Rachel." —Donna H., New York · "Such a good book. I could not stop and was so sad when it was over. I have not felt that way in a long time." —Jillian R., Oregon · "Breathtakingly good." —Tiffany M., Texas · "I read it in one sitting."—Beth G., Pennsylvania · "This one has absolutely captivated me. The language is beautiful. I hope it has a happy ending so I can bear to read it again." —Kelly B., South Carolina · "This book broke my heart, made me cry, made me laugh." —Alicia G., Florida · "I've never read a book that made me feel these emotions. I never wanted this story to end but I am so happy that I got to experience this amazing love story." —Christina F., New York · "It truly is one of the best!" —Randi F., Connecticut · "The only bad thing is that there was a last page. Love #RachelandAndy" —Jennifer R., Missouri · "It kept me enthralled (and hopeful) right to the end." —Veronica B., New York · "My heart is alternately crying and rejoicing. Thank you for your great gift of crafting a story." —Karen F., California · "Readers will laugh, cry, and find themselves caught up in the story, as Weiner explores the idea: 'Do soul mates really exist?'...A story about love gained and lost, and love eternal." —Associated Press



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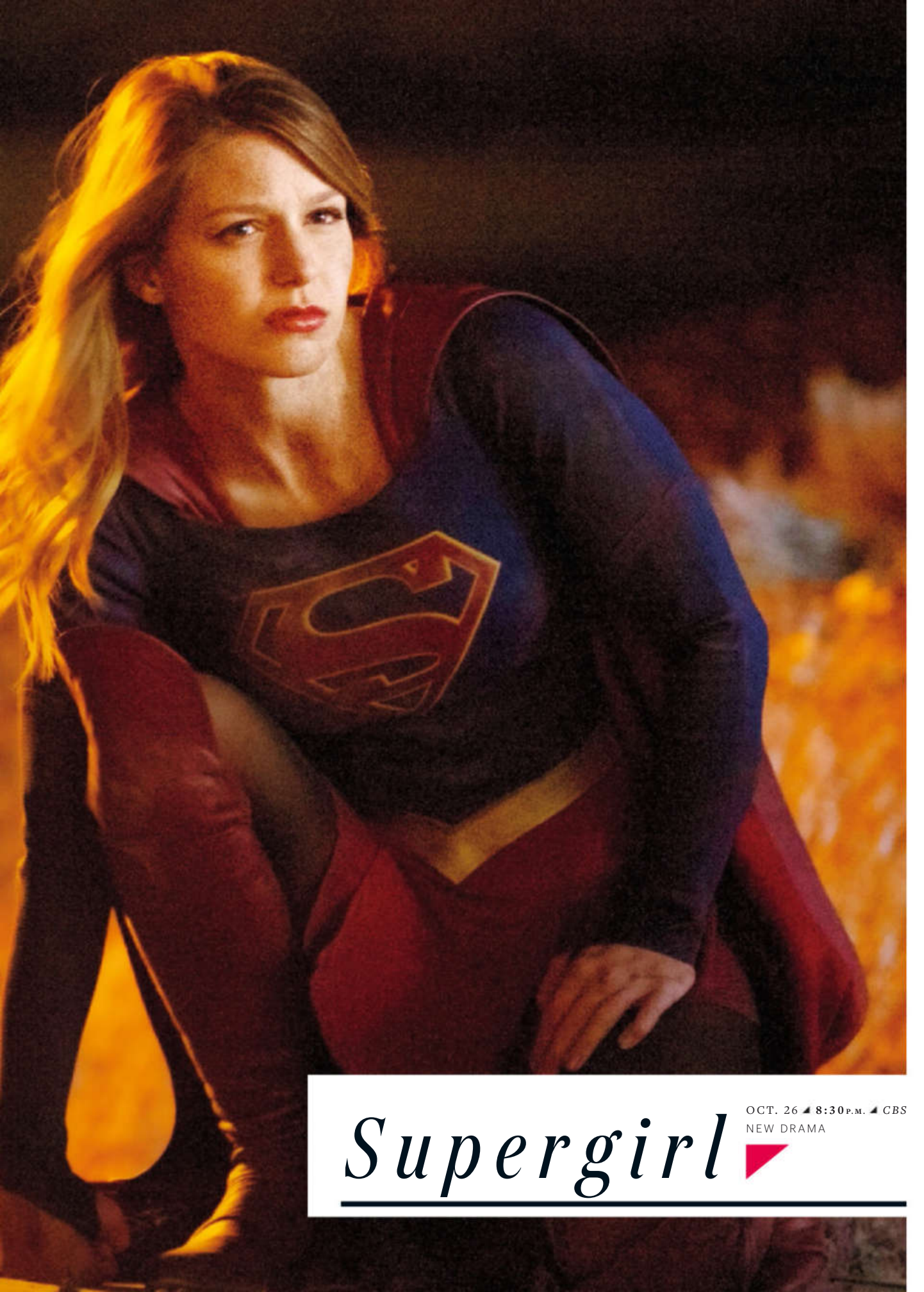
FALL TV PREVIEW

MONDAY

MON



Melissa Benoist



Supergirl

OCT. 26 ◢ **8:30** P.M. ◢ *CBS*
NEW DRAMA


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(Clockwise from top) Benoist, Mehcad Brooks, and Calista Flockhart; Benoist and Chyler Leigh; Flockhart

(PREVIOUS SPREAD) DARREN MICHAELS/CBS; (THIS PAGE) BENOIST, BROOKS, AND FLOCKHART: RICHARD CARTWRIGHT/CBS; BENOIST AND LEIGH: CLIFF LIPSON/CBS; FLOCKHART: MICHAEL YARISH/CBS

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE IT'S BEEN 40 YEARS SINCE A MAJOR NETWORK launched a TV show about a female superhero based on a comic-book character. You have to go all the way back to 1975's *Wonder Woman* to find a costumed lead heroine—Lynda Carter, in her gold-lassoed, star-spangled short-shorts glory. That's why CBS' upcoming *Supergirl* is a series that's equal parts revolutionary and way, *way* overdue.

And the fate of the series all depends on a 26-year-old from Colorado in her first lead role: former *Glee* actress Melissa Benoist, whose days and nights are crammed with learning to perform one superpowered feat after another. Like during EW's visit to the L.A. set when Benoist had her first Kryptonian quick change. Remember how Christopher Reeve's hunky dork Clark Kent whipped off his glasses while rushing to transform into Superman? It's kind of like that, only with a feminine twist—the glasses come off, then she releases her pinned-up hair with a freeing toss, like a shampoo ad. (But not *too* much like a shampoo ad—that would be the silly come-hither version that Benoist jokingly performs between takes.)

Oh, and no pressure—she's told production is running behind and she only has "one shot" to do this. In response, Benoist starts rapping Eminem: "You better never let it go! You only get one shot, do not miss your chance to blow..."

She doesn't finish, but the rest of the lyric hangs in the air anyway: *This opportunity comes once in a lifetime...*

"Action!" Benoist strides through a chaotic horde of extras, flicks off her specs, pulls the hairpin, and her locks...don't...quite...unfurl in time.

So? Girl's got thick hair, okay? Her cousin Superman never had to deal with *this*.

And that's the whole point of the show. "It's Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers," executive producer Greg Berlanti has often said. Because Rogers had to do every dance move Astaire performed, "but backwards and in heels." Which is exactly how the superproducer, also responsible for *The Flash* and *Arrow*, pitched the show to CBS last year.

The biggest challenge was finding an actress who could pull off playing Kara Zor-El (a.k.a. Supergirl). Benoist was the first out of thousands that producers considered—just like Stephen Amell was the first to audition for Arrow, and Grant Gustin was first in line for Flash. But Benoist's placement was no accident. Casting director David Rapaport "made sure [producers] saw Melissa first," exec producer Sarah Schechter reveals. "He knew how superstitious Greg and [exec producer Andrew Kreisberg] were, and he used that."

There was a good reason Rapaport pushed for Benoist. She brought a joyful optimism to her audition that influenced the pilot script even while it was still being written. Yet it took months to get everybody, including CBS, to agree. "I definitely had a moment where I couldn't understand why I [hadn't gotten it]," Benoist recalls. "Some people were hesitant because I hadn't had much experience."

Another concern was the producers' Annie Hall-ish rom-com conception of Kara, which veered from most tights-wearing crime-fighters and from Supergirl's flying-cheerleader look in the comics. "Everyone just wanted to be sure," Berlanti says. "They knew that this was the most important decision that we would make. They have pictures in the comics of a massive mane of blond hair, and an emphasis on her chest or legs."

Other casting moves included tapping *True Blood*'s Mehcad Brooks (tall, ripped, African-American) as



Benoist on set

Superman's buddy Jimmy Olsen, typically a redheaded geek. "I'm like, 'Wait—*the* Jimmy Olsen?'" Brooks says about being approached for the part. "I've gone out for things where people talk about 'color-blind casting' before, but normally it doesn't go your way." After getting the good news, "I screamed like there was a fire." For the role of Kara's demanding boss, media magnate Cat Grant, Berlanti swayed Calista Flockhart to come back to broadcast TV, where she last worked on his ABC show *Brothers & Sisters*. "I don't know that I've ever begged as hard as that," Berlanti says of signing Flockhart.

With the cast in place, the next hurdle was scripting the ambitious pilot, in which Kara juggles a regular, bill-paying job as a personal assistant in National City with her love life, all the while secretly moonlighting as a freelance hero capturing alien bad guys. (Kara's famous cousin, Superman, remains off screen in Metropolis.) The pilot, reported to cost $14 million and stuffed to the gills with special effects, took more than a month to film. "It sometimes turned a little tedious for us, like, 'Take 40!'" says Jeremy Jordan, who plays Kara's friend-zoned confidant Winslow. "We were like, 'Am I that bad of an actor?' But they wanted to get a bunch of options so they could find the right tone."

CBS tested the result with a focus group where producers had a particularly scary moment during a scene in which a villain beats up Supergirl. The focus group did not like that at all. "The first time a man punches a woman, everyone went, 'Oh my God'—so that was tricky," says showrunner Ali Adler. But as Supergirl recovered and triumphed, the dials turned positive again. "She has the exact same powers as Superman, so I think we just needed to show the audience that," Adler says.

Public response to that first episode—which leaked online back in May—has been overwhelmingly positive. Now comes the rest of the hard part: crafting all the episodes to come this season, which Benoist teases is a "roller-coaster crash test of what it takes to be a hero" as her character tackles Phantom Zone fugitives while solidifying her team of helpers.

Which brings us back to the Supergirl herself, currently working until 2:30 a.m. and cheerfully holding a plank for long stretches while hanging on "flying" wires and wearing an uncomfortable corset under an equally uncomfortable muscle-padded suit. "Kara is so optimistic, and so positive, and just full of hope all the time," Benoist says. "My tendency can sometimes be 'Oh, man, if I were in this situation, I'd feel hopeless.' But she never feels that. There's never really a horribly dark moment in Supergirl's life." Yet for executives watching her every move, Benoist is the one element—the most important one—they're not worried about. "She is going to change the way girls feel about themselves with her energy and her light," Adler declares. "It's crazy. She's going to fly." —JAMES HIBBERD

> ***"I HAD A MOMENT WHERE I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY I [HADN'T GOTTEN IT]. SOME PEOPLE WERE HESITANT BECAUSE I HADN'T HAD MUCH EXPERIENCE."***
>
> —MELISSA BENOIST

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Patrick Wilson, Jean Smart, Ted Danson, Jesse Plemons, and Kirsten Dunst



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Fargo

SEASON 2 | OCT. 12 | 10 P.M. | FX



KIRSTEN DUNST IS REALLY FEELING THE PRESSURE. **ON THE CALGARY SET** of *Fargo*'s second season, she's been doing take after take of a critical scene from the show's premiere episode.

In the scene, Dunst's small-town beautician character, Peggy, is in a garage, fighting with her butcher husband, Ed (Jesse Plemons). Peggy has struck a mobster with her car, and she's now begging Ed to help cover up the accident. Everywhere you look in the garage there's another prop loaded with foreboding dark humor: An assortment of saw blades is mounted teasingly on the wall; Peggy's car is a Corvair (the model Ralph Nader famously declared "unsafe at any speed"); a dangling tennis ball on a string meant to assist with parking lines up exactly with a gory hole in the Corvair's windshield.

"If this comes out, all the things you want—that we want—it's over!" Peggy desperately pleads to Ed. "No shop. No kids. No family."

The scene will eventually set a record for the most number of takes this season, and that's not even counting the first time it was shot weeks ago. Unsatisfied with his earlier version, showrunner Noah Hawley rewrote the confrontation, and now Dunst is struggling to convey Hawley's newly tweaked mix of desperation, panic, and empathy, with a dash of threatening guile. A visiting FX executive leans over to ask Hawley: "Why did you have to write such complicated emotions?"

Dunst eventually nails it. "That was hard," she says afterward. "That scene sets up the entire season, and we did it totally different than last time."

For Hawley, the effort was worth it. *Fargo* is doing a total creative reboot after a critically acclaimed breakout season. There's a new cast, a new plot, and a new setting—South Dakota and Minnesota in 1979, where two crime organizations are at war, with the local police and Peggy and Ed caught in the middle. Hawley feels that every scene must achieve a level of perfection to avoid the fate of that other adored-in-its-first-season crime anthology, *True Detective*, if he has any hope of pulling off his same Emmy-winning trick twice.

"With TV you usually do the best you can in the time slotted. But I believe we're making a movie, and it needs to be perfect," says Hawley, who confesses to researching how many days HBO gave Nic Pizzolatto to make the first season of *True Detective* (100 for eight episodes compared with FX giving him 83 days to make 10 of *Fargo*). "We just don't have HBO's money. We gotta run harder and faster."

> **"WITH TV YOU USUALLY DO THE BEST YOU CAN IN THE TIME SLOTTED. BUT I BELIEVE WE'RE MAKING A MOVIE, AND IT NEEDS TO BE PERFECT."**
>
> —NOAH HAWLEY

Dunst was the first casting decision for *Fargo*'s second round, and Hawley helped reaffirm her choice with an email sent the night before she started filming. "It made me cry it was so thoughtful," Dunst recalls. "He so eloquently put Peggy's journey into words."

Plemons was the second, though he says he was initially uncertain about taking it due to his role's unflattering casting description of a "cow of a man." But Hawley swayed the *Breaking Bad* actor. "Ed's not slow," Plemons recalls Hawley explaining. "He just sees the world in a simple way."

If you're getting the sense that wooing stars is one of Hawley's talents, you're right. He's got Ted Danson playing a sheriff. Jean Smart is a local crime-family matriarch. Brad Garrett is a corporate Mob thug. Patrick Wilson is state cop Lou Solverson (a role originated by Keith Carradine in the first season), and Nick Offerman plays a boozy lawyer. Many of these names (like Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele last season) are best known for being funny, as Hawley likes giving comedic actors a shot at being on his high-stakes drama, a strategy that has big-name actors lining up for minor roles, like former *Everybody Loves Raymond* star Garrett.

"I've never played a character like this. I gotta bring my A game," Garrett says between takes of a scene where



(From left) Plemons and Dunst; Smart

his character, Bulo, gives a slide-show presentation on his Mob syndicate's plan to conquer the Midwestern crime scene. "It's interesting to play humor with a guy who isn't trying to be funny. He's funny despite himself."

As for Smart, Hawley sent the former *Designing Women* star photos from a book of bleak Andrew Wyeth paintings to suggest the essence of her character's family. Still, Smart was shocked after her first makeup session, which deliberately made her look older.

"The first day they cut and dyed and styled my hair, I burst into tears," Smart says. "But after 10 minutes, I was fine and I loved it. That it's not a glamour role is incredibly liberating. This must be what it's like to be a [male actor], where you're just thinking about your character and the scene. You don't have to care about looking skinny."

Meanwhile, Ted Danson sports a new look as well, with a bushy, snow-white beard.

Danson confesses that the prospect of learning a Minnesota accent for his "cowboy poet" sheriff "scared the hell" out of him, so he started elongating his vowels and inflecting upward as soon as he landed the role, practicing every morning before arriving on set. "This is the closest I'll ever get to being in a musical," he says. And as Danson's partner in crime solving, Wilson has to both rock polyester maroon pants and make this season's version of Solverson his own—complete with that tricky Minnesota accent that Carradine skipped. "There are a lot of years between the two [versions]," Wilson figures, explaining the vocal difference. "He's at a different place in his life. Maybe Lou left and went to Southern California for a while?"

In addition to the obvious creative overhaul, Hawley is shaking up the show in other, more subtle ways. "You can't do the same gimmicks again," he says. "You need all new gimmicks." Gone are the thematic parables and anecdotes peppered throughout the first year. Instead, expect the use of '70s-style split-screen storytelling. "We're tracking so many characters, and we have so many threats coming from so many angles, you want to keep pressure on the audience," Hawley explains. And then there's that left-field cameo by a campaigning Ronald Reagan, played by Bruce Campbell. Hawley chose Campbell because he thought the *Evil Dead* star could reflect the Gipper's post-matinee-idol charisma.

All this will lead up to that mysterious crime referenced in *Fargo*'s first season, the legendary "massacre of Sioux Falls." We get the sense *Fargo* is going to fully deliver on that event. "There is stuff that happens this season that's astounding," says Danson, sounding a bit like he's giving a warning. "Very far-out. Yet it's earned. And that [Hawley] gets away with it makes him such a great writer."

Even *Fargo*'s iconic snowy backdrop will evolve, though that wasn't entirely part of the plan—Calgary simply had an unusually mild winter. But, of course, during a visit to the set to interview Danson and Wilson, who were shooting a scene at a cabin in the woods, the snow started coming down rather heavily, and the scene had to be postponed. For fans of *Fargo*-ian irony, the reason is all too perfect: too much snow! Hawley sees some upside to nature not cooperating—season 2 will have a different look for a different story. But will fans love the finished product as much as the first? For Hawley, every season must be better than the last just to be considered equally compelling.

"It's getting harder and harder to make something timeless," Hawley says. "There's so much now, and it's thrown at you so fast. Everyone has *The Godfather* or *Citizen Kane* at the top of their lists of best movies. But if they were made today, would they still be on the list? Those movies became iconic because they stood alone. Now you sit in *Transformers 5* and you're seeing things the human eye has never seen and yet you're bored. My goal is to do something...more." But with much less snow. —JAMES HIBBERD

Q+A

Trevor Noah

OF **The Daily Show With Trevor Noah**

NEW TALK SHOW | 11 P.M. | *COMEDY CENTRAL*

WHEN IT WAS ANNOUNCED LAST MARCH THAT A RELATIVELY UNKNOWN COMIC FROM SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE REPLACING BELOVED ICON JON STEWART AS HOST OF *THE DAILY SHOW* AFTER 16 YEARS, THERE WAS A COLLECTIVE "WHO'S THAT?" SO WE DECIDED TO GET TO KNOW THE 31-YEAR-OLD A LITTLE BETTER AND ASK HIM SOME QUESTIONS AS TOUGH AS THE ONES HE'LL BE ASKING FROM THE HOT SEAT. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MEET TREVOR NOAH. —MELISSA MAERZ

You grew up in South Africa during apartheid as the son of a black mother and a white father. What was the stand-up-comedy scene like for you? I read that comedy in South Africa is way more confrontational than it is in America, especially when it comes to talking about race.

Yes. We've had democracy for 20 years. That's not a long time. All the comedians had an explosion of free speech, so people wanted to talk about race and politics in a world where we were never allowed to speak about that. I was always fascinated when I would watch comics from America and a guy would be complaining about how a bottle of milk opens. It was like, Wow! I want to get to a place where the biggest problem in my life is the fact that the milk doesn't open the way that I want it to! That's a great life!

When Comedy Central announced you as *The Daily Show*'s next host, some people complained that your early tweets were sexist or racist. Do you think we're too eager to police comedy in this country?

Definitely. I understand where it comes from. But people would say, "Are you going to change?" And I'd say, "You went back three years to find the tweets! If I haven't repeated those things, haven't I changed?" If you look back three years and you're not disappointed in who you were then, you're not progressing. But we live in a world of faux outrage.

When Jon Stewart started at *The Daily Show*, he targeted Fox News and right-wing talking points. How would you describe the political culture that you'll be focusing on?

We're coming to the end of a racial honeymoon. When Obama came into power, people went, "Maybe there is hope!" The same thing happened in South Africa. We





got our first black president, and it was like, Yeah! But then you realize that it's easier to vote a black man into power than it is to give all minorities the freedom they deserve. It's a very tough realization when you're like, that was just the first step. Right now America's dealing with a lot of pent-up frustration and pain.

Jon Stewart mostly covered cable news, but you've said you'll cover BuzzFeed and Gawker, too. Does that mean you'll critique media more generally, not just political coverage?

Politics, media, anything. Like I'm always amused by Vice. Sometimes it's less about the news and more about "Look, we found 2-year-old babies that smoke!" Stuff like that is easy to satirize, because that's really the role of *The Daily Show*, to sift through what should be news and what shouldn't.

***The Daily Show* has always been fairly left-of-center politically. Which way do you lean? Far left? More to the center?**

I never grew up with those terms. We don't have "progressive" and "conservative" [in South Africa]. Even the word *conservative* is strange to me, because it implies that you're against progress. So, Cecil the lion—when I look at that story, I'm not going, "What is the left's angle? What is the right's?" I'm going, "What is the truth in this thing?" People hunt for sport all the time. We're gonna make it seem like we've never walked past a bar that's got buffalo heads in it? Then you realize, well, maybe it's people finding an outlet for rage about police brutality. It's like, This poor lion did nothing! You just went out of your way to kill that lion! It's like the universe gave us a metaphor.

When people analyze your time at *The Daily Show*, as they've been analyzing Stewart's, what do you hope they'll say?

Most important, I would love for them to say, "Who would've thought that after all this time, that show's still funny?" Then, if people can say, "We thought of things differently because of him" or "We had conversations we never would've had because of him." I want people to say, "He made a positive change in the world."

That's interesting, because I think there's an overemphasis on positivity in late-night right now. Jimmy Fallon is so likable, but he doesn't ask tough questions. When late-night hosts come from overseas, their tone often changes. James Corden was very sarcastic when he was in the U.K., and now he's very upbeat.

It depends on your personality. Fallon—he's just doing Fallon. Leno is the same. I would argue that they got those jobs because they're extremely likable. The U.K. is a very dark, sarcastic place. Corden might just know that's not welcome here. In South Africa, we're not dark. We're just open. I'm not trying to offend people, but there's a funny side of everything. Nelson Mandela laughed a lot. If you can laugh when you think you're going to be in jail for the rest of your life, I don't think anyone has an excuse to say there's nothing to laugh about. There's always something to laugh about. **SEPT. 28**

@

Follow @*Trevornoah* for a glimpse into his real life

JAMES YANG

MONDAY

NEW + RETURNING

Dancing With the Stars

SEASON 21 | 8 P.M. | *ABC*

DWTS is not like other reality TV. We don't hate ourselves for watching, and it rarely gets more risqué than an overzealous shimmy. (It is, after all, about ballroom dancing.) But after 20 seasons, the squeaky-clean series still continues to captivate audiences. No wonder, considering this season's cast includes such celebs as Paula Deen, Gary Busey, and Nick Carter. "The demographic has expanded so much," says Julianne Hough, who returns as a judge. "The audience is much younger recently, along with the avid watchers." **SEPT. 14**

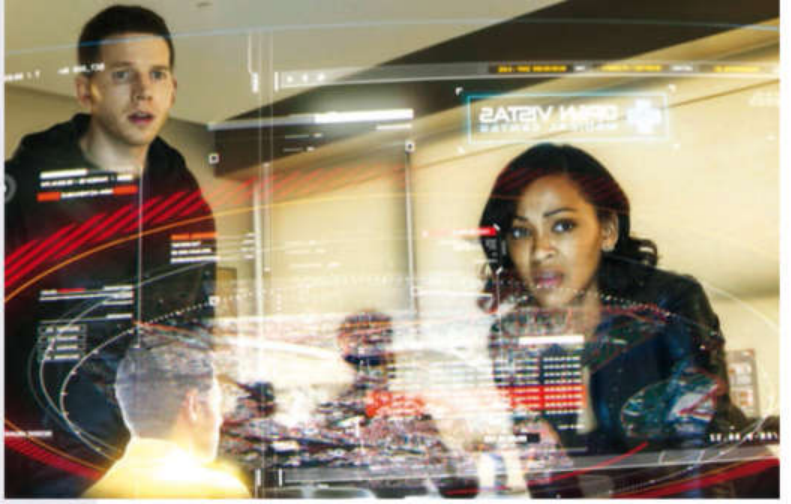
THE BIG BANG THEORY

SEASON 9 | 8 P.M. | *CBS*

Pro tip: When kissing your girlfriend, it's best not to bring up the Flash. Sheldon (Jim Parsons) learned that the hard way in the finale, prompting Amy (Mayim Bialik) to step back from their relationship after he had secretly procured a ring. "This is not a breakup," Bialik assures Shamy fans. "She needs space, and the first episode explores how Sheldon deals with that notion." In short: not well. "He's hurt and confused," EP Steven Molaro says. The premiere also finds Leonard (Johnny Galecki) and Penny (Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting) going through with a quickie wedding. "The show is moving forward in big ways," Molaro says. "For both couples, sometimes things need to get worse before they get better." **SEPT. 21**

Johnny Galecki and Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting





Stark Sands and Meagan Good

HOW TO...

TURN A BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE INTO A TV SHOW

Minority Report

NEW DRAMA | 9 P.M. | *FOX*

YOU'VE PROBABLY NOTICED THAT NETWORKS ARE SUDDENLY OBSESSED WITH TURNING MOVIES INTO TV SHOWS (THIS SEASON'S *LIMITLESS*, *RUSH HOUR*, AND *UNCLE BUCK*, TO NAME JUST A FEW). SO WE TURNED TO MAX BORENSTEIN, THE CREATOR OF FOX'S UPCOMING *MINORITY REPORT*, TO WALK US THROUGH HOW STEVEN SPIELBERG'S 2002 SCI-FI HIT MADE THE TRIP TO PRIME TIME. —JAMES HIBBERD

1 WIN THE RIGHTS

For years, TV producers saw potential in the technological thriller about a law enforcement division that uses a trio of visionaries who can predict murders before they happen. But they couldn't win over Spielberg. Borenstein cracked the case by rewatching the original: "The last shot shows the precogs sent into isolation, and I thought, 'Whoa, that's the story! What happened to these people?' " And that's how he got Spielberg to sign on.

2 PROTECT THE TITLE

Even a precog couldn't have predicted that Comedy Central would announce a late-night show called *The Minority Report With Larry Wilmore*. In the era of online branding, you don't want two matching titles confusing Twitter. Comedy Central's *Minority Report* became *The Nightly Show*.

3 CAST WISELY

Producers considered U.K.-based Samantha Morton to reprise Agatha. "It just wasn't tenable," says Borenstein, who instead tapped Laura Regan, Stark Sands, and Nick Zano as precogs. As for the big one? "There's been no serious discussion, given that he's Tom Cruise and a gigantic movie star, but if we ever had the opportunity we'd jump at it," Borenstein adds.

4 LISTEN TO THE MASTER

The busiest director in Hollywood is far more hands-on than you might think. Spielberg gives script notes, watches dailies, and provides suggestions on edits (some extremely specific, like which frame to cut a scene on). "He had an idea for a piece of technology that he sketched on a cocktail napkin and sent a photo of it," Borenstein says.

5 SELL THE SHOW AS SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT!

The double-edged sword of a familiar title: You get attention, but fans don't want a rehash. "What's exciting about our show is that it's totally original in relation to the film," Borenstein says. "It's a different story, and none of the characters, with the exception of Agatha, were key players in the film." So will the show be a hit? That's one thing nobody can predict. **SEPT. 21**

MINORITY REPORT: BRUCE MACCAULEY/FOX; *THE BIG BANG THEORY*: SONJA FLEMMING/CBS

Gotham

SEASON 2 | 8 P.M. | FOX

Heading into season 2, Gotham has a new king in Oswald Cobblepot and a new format: The season will be divided into two 11-episode halves. "It is a very, very different show [this season]," says star Ben McKenzie, a.k.a. Det. James Gordon. "We're aiming for a grander, saga-type construction in which we can actually sit with the characters and understand their motivations and how the turbulence of their lives affects the greater landscape." With that in mind, the show is injecting a host of new villains, including Mr. Freeze, Clayface, Firefly, and Jerome—who may or may not evolve into the Joker. "Now that we have the confidence of the world, we can start to add characters," says director and exec producer Danny Cannon. "We call this season 'the rise of the villains.'" **SEPT. 21**

LIFE IN PIECES

SEASON 1 | 8:30 P.M. | CBS

Dianne Wiest and James Brolin may play the matriarch and patriarch of the Short clan, but on this multiple-POV sitcom, no one is in charge. Middle child Matt (Thomas Sadoski) is still hosting adult sleepovers at his parents' house; youngest sibling Greg (Colin Hanks) is stumbling through the early days of parenthood; and first-born Heather (Betsy Brandt) is still packing lunch for her oldest son as he goes off to college. "The show is about tackling those relatable moments in all of our lives," creator Justin Adler says. And Sadoski says the cast got immediately close while filming the pilot: "Betsy and I have become texting buddies. We send each other the most inappropriate things." **SEPT. 21**

Scorpion

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | CBS

Genius computer expert Walter O'Brien (Elyes Gabel) can't use his IQ of 197 for everything. Case in point: When the CBS thriller returns this fall, he's stuck doing community service to make up for his reckless Ferrari catastrophe from the finale. Luckily, Walter has a friend in Paige (Katharine McPhee), with whom he shared a kiss at the end of last season. "Their relationship's definitely going to progress," executive producer Nicholas Wootton promises, "but it's going to be a stop-and-start kind of situation." The rest of Team Scorpion will face higher stakes this season as well: "The critique that we kept getting [last year] was 'There's no way you're going to be able to do more stunts,'" EP Nick Santora says. "The truth is, we've done stuff that's bigger, that's more complex,

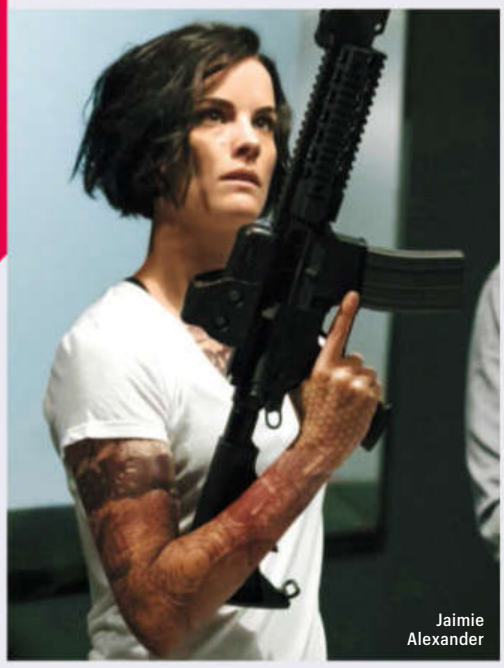


Zoe Lister-Jones, Colin Hanks, Thomas Sadoski, Betsy Brandt, and Dan Bakkedahl

Blindspot

NEW DRAMA | 10 P.M. | NBC

Being dosed with a memory-loss drug, covered in tattoos, and left naked in a bag in Times Square sounds like a really bad way to wake up, but for viewers of the new thriller *Blindspot*, it's just the start of a giant treasure hunt. Each tattoo contains a riddle the FBI will have to solve in order to figure out the identity of Jane Doe (Jaimie Alexander). "These are real codes that, if the audience thinks about, are things they can actually decipher," says EP Martin Gero. We asked him to clue us in on the symbolism of two of the tats to help get the amateur sleuths started. Read on for hints, and happy hunting! SEPT. 21



Jaimie Alexander



"This tattoo is actually an address," Gero says of the two leaves on the back of Jane's left knee. "They're a great start to episode 4. There's something that the audience can kind of figure out. All I can say is that it is a place."



"The letters and numbers unlock a person," Gero says of the ink on Jane's right thigh. To solve this one, you need to have gotten the tattoo clue from the pilot. "There's an encrypted message there that can be decoded by anyone."

LIFE IN PIECES: NEIL JACOBS/CBS; ALEXANDER: VIRGINIA SHERWOOD/NBC; *BLINDSPOT*: WARNER BROS. (2)

so expect to see more intense action sequences." What could be bigger than dangling off a cliff in a Ferrari? Teases Gabel: "We'll be going to higher altitudes." Does that mean...*Scorpion* in space? **SEPT. 21**

Castle

SEASON 8 | 10 P.M. | *ABC*

"We really wanted to figure out the next evolution of Castle and Beckett together," says Terence Paul Winter, who takes over as co-showrunner this season with Alexi Hawley. What they figured out is that it's not time for Beckett (Stana Katic) to run for Senate just yet. "Putting her in the world of politics ultimately felt like it would take us too far afield," Hawley says. Instead she's taking over as the precinct's captain—a new gig that'll shake up Castle's (Nathan Fillion) life a bit. "Beckett's change in career won't allow Castle that kind of access he's been accustomed to in previous seasons," Fillion says. "To get his murder-solving fix, he has to lean more heavily on his private-investigation career." One thing that's not changing? The show's ability to successfully oscillate between dark and light story lines. "We can have episodes that are very gritty and raw," Winter says, "and then the next week, we can tell something that's fun and frothy and delightful." **SEPT. 21**



Sean Bean

LEGENDS

SEASON 2 | 10 P.M. | *TNT*

Sean Bean lives! The actor, best known for his horrific onscreen deaths, is not only reprising his role as Martin Odum, a covert FBI agent who constantly changes his identity for each case he works, he'll also be playing a mysterious Russian named Dmitry Petrovich. "We'll discover how these two characters are connected to each other over the course of the season," says showrunner Ken Biller. Bean's double role isn't the only thing new this season—the setting has shifted to Europe, and the majority of the characters are new. Biller does promise resolution to last year's biggest mystery: Who is Martin Odum? "We will discover his identity," Biller says. "It will be very surprising." **NOV. 2**

BREAKING BIG

RACHEL BLOOM

OF **Crazy Ex-Girlfriend**

NEW COMEDY | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*

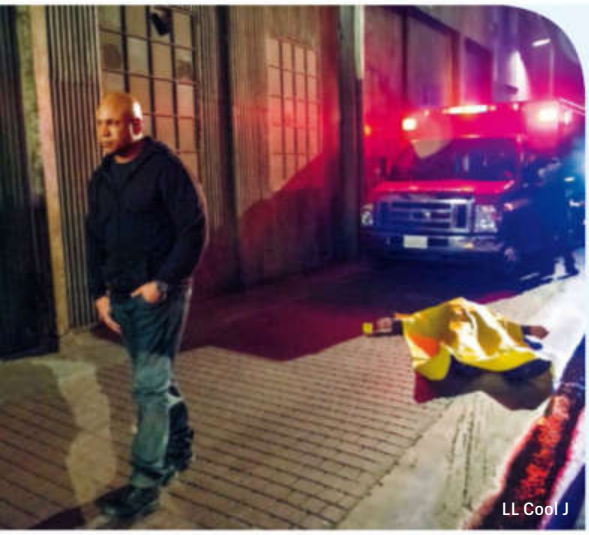


Rachel Bloom started focusing on show business at an early age. "My friend in high school actually wrote an essay about me," she says. "And I think she phrased it really well: 'While other people in middle school were busy going to sleepovers and having friends, Rachel was taking singing lessons.'" But even if Bloom, 28, was a little overfocused, it has paid off handsomely. This fall, she stars on *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, a series she co-created with *The Devil Wears Prada* writer Aline Brosh McKenna about a professionally successful but emotionally empty New York lawyer who moves across the country to win back her former summer-camp sweetheart. And if that sounds like a lot, there's more. *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* isn't just a comedy about a charming stalker, it's a musical comedy about a charming stalker. (Each episode features original songs written by Bloom, Steven M. Gold, and Oscar nominee Adam Schlesinger.)

You may recognize Bloom from her viral video "F--- Me, Ray Bradbury"—a love song she wrote about the sci-fi novelist that boasts 2.7 million views—but it was her animated Cracked.com short "Historically Accurate Disney Princess Song" that caught McKenna's eye. After their initial meeting, the two quickly got to work on *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* for Showtime. The network ultimately passed, but after some retooling The CW swooped in to save it. "The show went from being potentially dead to maybe a possibility to 'You're flying to upfronts and talking about the show,'" she says. "Now at the end of every day, it's like, 'Oh, my gosh. People are actually going to get to hear these songs.' That's what feels really exciting about it." OCT. 12



LEGENDS: LARRY D. HORRICKS; BLOOM: MATHIEU YOUNG/THE CW; *CRAZY EX-GIRLFRIEND*: EDDY CHEN/THE CW


LL Cool J

NCIS: LOS ANGELES

SEASON 7 | 10 P.M. | CBS

Water may be scarce in the City of Angels, but the intrigue is flowing in the premiere, which finds Agent Callen (Chris O'Donnell) involved in an investigation so rogue that he hasn't even told his partner, Sam (LL Cool J). "It puts them all in a very difficult place professionally and emotionally," says exec producer Shane Brennan. Count on a fully budded relationship between Kensi (Daniela Ruah) and Deeks (Eric Christian Olsen), but don't expect things to take off for Nell (Renée Felice Smith) and Eric (Barrett Foa). "That's our new slow burn," jokes Brennan. **SEPT. 21**

WHY YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

Jane the Virgin

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | THE CW

THE CW MAY BE CELEBRATED FOR ITS NICHE TEEN FARE, BUT THIS ADORABLY QUIRKY SERIES ABOUT AN ABSTINENT TWENTYSOMETHING (GINA RODRIGUEZ)—WHOSE DREAMS OF BECOMING A ROMANCE WRITER ARE THWARTED WHEN A DOCTOR ACCIDENTALLY INSEMINATES HER—DEMANDS SPACE ON YOUR FALL TV-VIEWING SCHEDULE THIS YEAR. HERE'S WHY. —NINA TERRERO


Gina Rodriguez

1 AWARD-WINNING PERFORMANCES

Rodriguez scored a Golden Globe for her comedic role last year, but you can expect even more from her now that Jane's had her baby. "We'll see Jane struggle with being a good mom and pursuing her goals," says EP Jennie Snyder Urman.

2 TV'S BEST LOVE TRIANGLE

Months of will-she-or-won't-she indecision about baby daddy Rafael (Justin Baldoni) and detective Michael (Brett Dier) will come to a heart-stopping halt when Jane makes her choice—and walks down the aisle. "Jane will get married," confirms Urman.

3 IT'S NOT AFRAID TO GET REAL

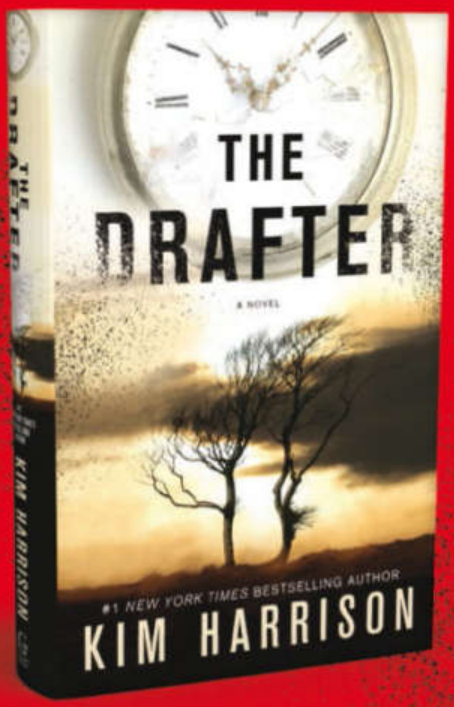
The series tackles heavy topics like class and immigration—the latter of which will become a focus when Jane's grandmother Alba (Ivonne Coll) confronts the subject of her legal status.

4 DAZZLING DREAM SEQUENCES

"Everything continues to come alive in our world," says Urman of the show's trademark fantasy scenes. Prepare to see Jane in head-to-toe sequins in a *Bachelorette*-style rose ceremony. "I have some fun ideas!" she adds with a laugh. **OCT. 12**

NCIS: LOS ANGELES: NEIL JACOBS/CBS; *JANE THE VIRGIN*: PATRICK WYMORE/THE CW

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Q+A

Gwen Stefani

OF **The Voice**

SEASON 9 | 8 P.M. | NBC

THOSE GIANT RED THRONES HOLD A LOT OF POWER, AND QUEEN GWEN WILL REIGN OVER A TEAM THIS FALL WHEN SHE BECOMES THE LONE FEMALE COACH. WE CHECKED IN WITH THE ROCK GODDESS ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE HANGING WITH FELLOW JUDGES AND COMPETITORS ADAM LEVINE, BLAKE SHELTON, AND PHARRELL WILLIAMS—AND WHY GIRL POWER WILL TOTALLY RULE THIS SEASON. —STEPHANIE SCHOMER



TRAE PATTON/NBC

What made you want to return as a coach for the second time?
I had no idea that I was going to be asked back! But I had such a great time [coaching season 7]. The guys are so fun. We have a great time off camera, too, just being in the talent compound with everyone hanging out. The vibe is so good here.

Do you have any pre-show routines?
It's mostly just hanging with my hair-and-makeup team, getting glammed up for the show. I'll play them my new songs. And I FaceTime with my kids all the time. I don't know what we would do without FaceTime.

Which mentors are you most looking forward to working with?
Selena Gomez. She's amazingly talented and has so much insight—she's been a performer since she was so young. Rihanna is also coming on as a key adviser. I'm mostly looking forward to all the girl power!

***The Voice* is a huge hit, but it hasn't produced any superstars. Why do you think people keep coming back to it?**
The winners have all been remarkable performers with amazing voices, but the music world is so complex. It's tough to break through. The benefit of this show is that audiences love to watch ordinary people have the national opportunity to showcase their talent. As a culture, we're constantly rooting for the underdog, so that's the real appeal of the show.

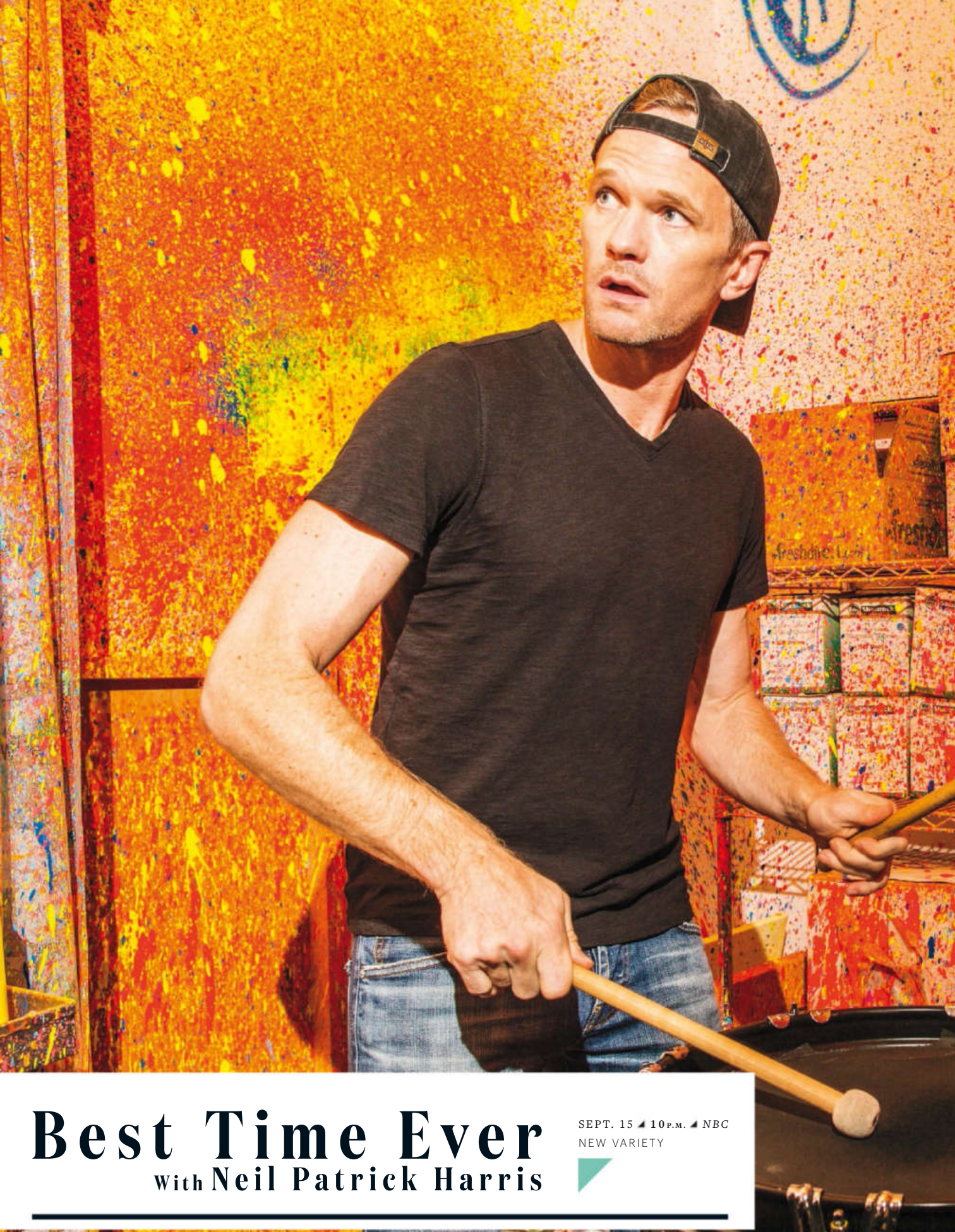
SEPT. 21

***MONDAY* WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** NATALIE ABRAMS, ARIANA BACLE, DANA ROSE FALCONE, SAMANTHA HIGHFILL, CHRISTIAN HOLUB, SHIRLEY LI, JOE MCGOVERN, STEPHANIE SCHOMER, AND KEVIN P. SULLIVAN

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Best Time Ever
With Neil Patrick Harris

SEPT. 15 ◢ 10 P.M. ◢ *NBC*
NEW VARIETY



FALL TV PREVIEW

TUESDAY

TUE



Harris with Nathaniel Motulsky, 7, who will serve as red-carpet correspondent/NPH doppelgänger on the show; (below) in the Blue Man Group dressing room



WHEN NEIL PATRICK HARRIS TELLS YOU HE HAS TO "GO TO VEGAS TO work on some weird stuff," it sounds like he's channeling Barney Stinson, his bro-tastic character on *How I Met Your Mother*. Instead, he's prepping for his next big TV project, an eight-episode live variety show that will consist of hidden-camera pranks, celebrities, competitions, musical performances, and yes, plenty of "weird stuff."

"We're in stealth mode right now," Harris says of the secrecy surrounding the show, which is based on a popular U.K. series called *Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway*. Instead of focusing on NPH's singing, dancing, and magic trickabilities, which we've already seen him do while hosting the Tonys and Oscars, *Best Time Ever* is meant for people who watch their TV as GIFs and day-after YouTube clips. As in, hilarious short segments that will be a total surprise for both viewers at home and in the live studio audience (some of whom will have unwittingly participated in hidden-camera pranks weeks before). "It's a well-thought-out social gathering," Harris says. "It's 'Oh, I have to go to that party because all kinds of crazy stuff has been planned.' It's not the party where you think, 'Hmm, what game should we play?'"

Despite the secrecy, he's allowed EW to tag along as he rehearses for an installment of "The End of the Show Show," a weekly episode-capping live performance of total randomness. On this hot morning in August, Harris strolls into the Manhattan training facility for new members of Blue Man Group, whose nearly 25-year history has been dedicated to the same kind of controlled chaos he wants for his own show. Harris will begin the segment as the conductor of an orchestra, performing the "Sabre Dance" alongside some Blue Men. If he's good enough, they'll do the same bit live on TV. If he stinks, they'll try for an easier routine. As Harris goes to town drumming on a PVC pipe called the Sabre Bone—which he claims was his prison nickname—it's clear the guy's got chops.

"I played the xylophone in school," he says, by way of explaining his short learning curve. Though Harris is in the habit of cracking jokes within the course of conversation, there's a seriousness in his approach—and that's because he's serving double duty on *Best Time Ever*. "I'm excited for these segments to be good," he says. "I've got my executive-producer helmet on all of the time now." As part of his EP responsibilities, he's been booking plenty of legen—wait for it—dary celebrity guests, not the easiest task to complete when most of the show is being kept under wraps. "We're pitching ideas for stars to be a part of, and their teams are saying, 'Show us what the show is.' We have to tell them we don't have any content to show them because it's live."

> ***IT'S A WELL-THOUGHT-OUT SOCIAL GATHERING. IT'S NOT THE PARTY WHERE YOU THINK, 'HMM, WHAT GAME SHOULD WE PLAY?' "***
>
> —NEIL PATRICK HARRIS

Still, he's got lots of pull in Hollywood. He's already managed to snag A-listers to act as celebrity pranksters and announcers for almost all eight episodes, including Reese Witherspoon and his *HIMYM* costar Cobie Smulders and her husband, *SNL*'s Taran Killam. "I was on the phone with [my husband] David [Burtka], and Jonah Hill walked by," Harris says. "It took a lot of me to not rush him and ask if he would be a part of the show. I don't want to be that guy, but if Jonah's reading this right now, he'd make a great guest announcer."

Harris is hopeful that the end result will be something people will love—and if they do, there could be another run of episodes, possibly timed with the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio. More than anything, he just wants *Best Time Ever* to live up to its name. "Too many people spend all day stressed out," he says. "Understandably. There's a lot to stress about. So I think this is a good opportunity for everyone to kick back and have a laugh. I hope that their faces hurt from smiling." Sounds like the kind of party we wouldn't want to miss. —KEVIN P. SULLIVAN

(PREVIOUS SPREAD) MARK PETERSON/NBC; (THIS PAGE) MOTULSKY AND HARRIS: CHRIS HASTON/NBC; HARRIS: MARK PETERSON/NBC


IT'S THE STOPS
THAT INSPIRE
US TO GO.
Toyota Camry | toyota.com/camry
TOYOTA
Let's Go Places
Prototype shown with options. Production model will vary. ©2015 Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.

The Grinder

NEW COMEDY | SEPT. 29 | 8:30 P.M. | FOX

ROB LOWE IS NOT A LAWYER, BUT HE HAS PLAYED A FEW ON TV. And this fall he'll play an actor who is famous for playing a lawyer on TV. Except this actor no longer wants to play a lawyer on TV—he wants to be one in real life.

Confused? Allow us to explain: *The Grinder* centers on a charismatic, unfairly handsome actor named Dean Sanderson Jr. who stars as relentless attorney Mitch Grinder on a hit series aptly titled *The Grinder*. ("I don't settle—ever!" Mitch resolutely reminds a colleague in a clip from the show-within-the-show.) Wanting to find his true self after eight seasons of fake lawyering, Dean forsakes Hollywood and moves home to Boise, Idaho, where his brother, Stewart (Fred Savage), is a father of two toiling as a lawyer. While soaking up the hometown life, he deduces that his tenure on *The Grinder* should qualify him to join his brother in seeking real justice, much to the delight of their father, Dean Sr. (William Devane), who runs the family firm, and much to the chagrin of Stewart, who can never escape his sibling's shinier shadow. Think Jan and Marcia. On an offbeat family/legal comedy. Set in Idaho.

The idea for the show sprouted from a question pondered by creators and EPs Andrew Mogel and Jarrad Paul (*The D Train*): If an actor pretends to do something for a while, is he/she now sort of an expert at it? "Would you rather have a heart attack next to a regular person or Hugh Laurie?" says Paul. "I'd want Hugh Laurie there if I had a medical emergency." Adds Mogel, "We love the idea that eight years of a playing a lawyer on a show is the equivalent of law school." After combining the concepts of the brother-who-upstages-his-sibling with the actor-who-thinks-he-can-do-it-for-real, the duo teamed up with exec producers Jake Kasdan (*New Girl*) and Nicholas Stoller (*Forgetting Sarah Marshall*) to assemble the cast, with visions of Lowe dancing in their heads. Lowe boasted the perfect résumé: He's grinded on heavy dramas like *The West Wing* and *The Lyon's Den*, yet scored laughs in *Wayne's World* and on *Parks and Recreation*.

> ***"WE LOVE THE IDEA THAT EIGHT YEARS OF PLAYING A LAWYER ON A SHOW IS THE EQUIVALENT OF LAW SCHOOL."***
>
> —EP ANDREW MOGEL

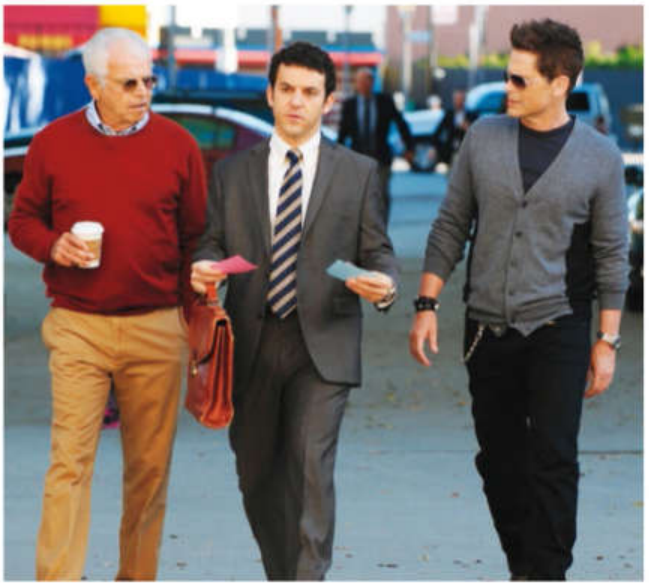




SAVAGE AND LOWE: MAARTEN DE BOER/GETTY IMAGES; *THE GRINDER*: RAY MICKSHAW/FOX

Lowe was instantly interested. "I felt that I had a way to do this character without making him douchey or entitled or any of the qualities you see when you're doing the self-centered, rich Hollywood star," he says. "And what I relate to is his well-meaning but often badly executed plan for authenticity in his life." He pauses. "If you have a pull quote, please make that the pull quote."

Paul and Mogel were having trouble casting Dean's foil-ish brother when Stoller pitched a friend: Fred Savage. The *Wonder Years* alum, who had built a successful career in TV directing, wasn't acting anymore and needed some persuading. "Honestly, I don't think I really knew I was doing it until I was doing it," chuckles Savage. And what Dean will be doing is turning Stewart's life upside down. "Stewart's law practice is so different than what Dean did on the show," says Savage. "It's not *To Kill a Mockingbird*. It's not even *Law & Order*. It's a lot of establishing trusts, setting up corporations. Dean pushes us to have more telegenic law cases. But we're not on TV—we're just a law firm."



(Left) Fred Savage and Rob Lowe; (above) with William Devane

Episodes will show Dean trying to liven up Stewart, whose monotone courtroom orations violate every rule of public speaking, while Stewart lends Dean substance—and actual knowledge of the law. Their energies will also bounce off Dean Sr.; Stewart's wife, Debbie (Mary Elizabeth Ellis); Stewart's two kids, Ethan (Connor Kalopsis) and Lizzie (Hana Hayes); and a rival lawyer named Claire (Natalie Morales), who seems immune to Dean's charms. And though the series is pitted against ratings powerhouse *NCIS* on Tuesdays, remember: The Grinder never settles. "It's not in his nature," deadpans Lowe. "When he's grinded them to a pulp, only *then* does the Grinder rest." —DAN SNIERSON



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You
GIVE LIFE
CHARACTER

Emma Roberts and Jamie Lee Curtis

OF **Scream Queens**

NEW COMEDY | 8 P.M. | *FOX*



IT'S HARD TO SAY WHICH IS SHARPER ON THE NEW SLASHER COMEDY: THE DEVIL-MASKED KILLER'S WEAPONS, OR THE BITING DIALOGUE. MUCH OF THE VERBAL WARFARE TAKES PLACE BETWEEN EMMA ROBERTS, WHO PLAYS SNOBBY SORORITY PRESIDENT CHANEL OBERLIN, AND JAMIE LEE CURTIS, AS BITTER DEAN OF STUDENTS CATHY MUNSCH. THANKFULLY, IN REAL LIFE, CONVERSATION WITH THE STARS IS MUCH FRIENDLIER. —TIM STACK

Q+A

You've both done horror and comedy to great success. Is it a dream job to have something that mixes the genres?

EMMA ROBERTS I think this is the funniest thing Ryan, Brad, and Ian have ever done. [*Queens* is from *Glee* creators Ryan Murphy, Brad Falchuk, and Ian Brennan.] Then they somehow layer in this horror/mystery level to it, too. No one else could pull it off but them.

JAMIE LEE CURTIS I think this horror-comedy matzo ball is so delicious because the writing is so yummy and spicy. For me, this has been a singular pleasure since the writing is so wicked. I cannot wait to go to work.

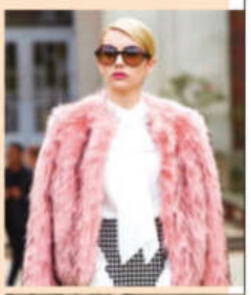
Your first big scene together is in Munsch's office, and the verbal sparring is pretty major.

ROBERTS That was day one! Maybe you don't remember because you weren't as nervous as me, but it was 1,000 degrees.

CURTIS I didn't know Emma, and she had to fire this stuff off really fast. I remember staring at her like, "Holy s---!" She's, like, throwing knives at me like one of those precision knife-throwers. It made me realize very quickly that I was going to be playing cards with somebody who is really sharp.

ROBERTS I remember in the blocking, Jamie Lee, you got right up in my face in the scene.

CURTIS I think I said I would kiss you.





ROBERTS You did say that.

CURTIS I think I actually suggested to Ryan that I lean in and kiss her, because then we'd *really* start blowing up the Internet.

What can you tease about the season and what's in store for Cathy and Chanel?

CURTIS We all have to be very careful about what we say. I can tell you that I fight. I have a big fight scene.

ROBERTS That's one of my favorite scenes of the season. But the writers only give us crumbs of information. We're all fighting over crumbs.

CURTIS And trying to re-create the crumbs into a piece of bread! We're all trying to figure this out along with you, along with the audience.

SEPT. 22

PHOTOGRAPH BY **MICHAEL MULLER**

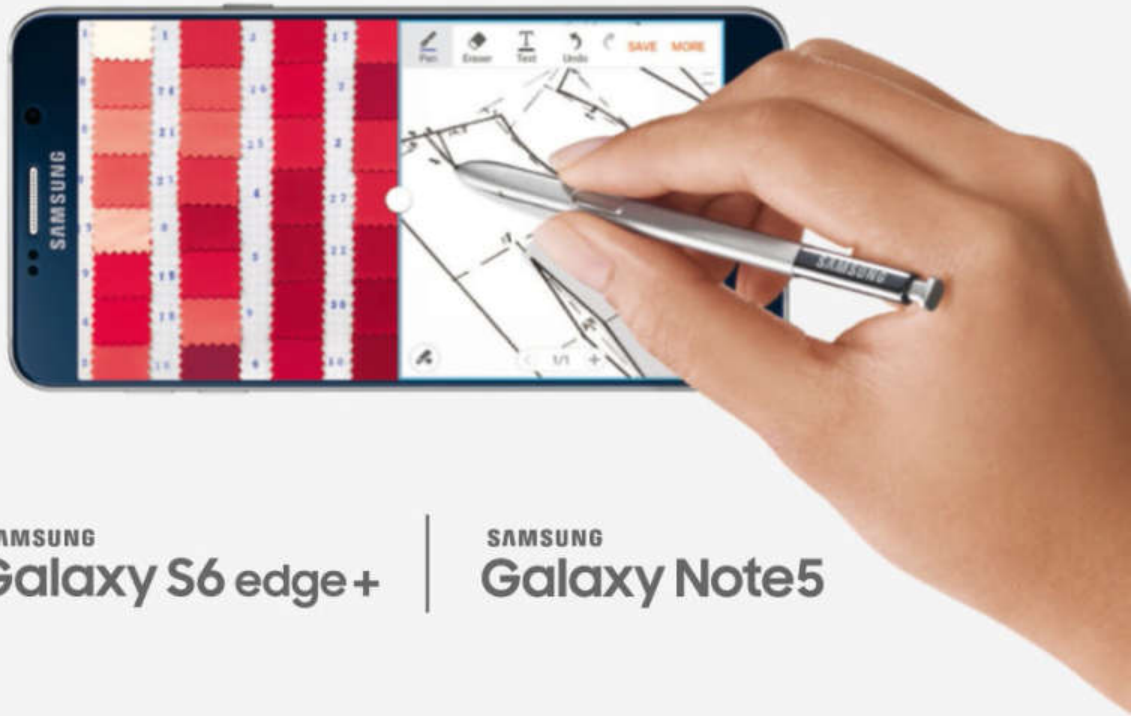
SCREAM QUEENS: STEVE DIETL/FOX (2)

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Elizabeth Banks and Miss Piggy

The Mup



TV

NEW COMEDY | SEPT. 22 | 8 P.M. | *ABC*

AS YOU WALK THE HALLWAYS OF MISS PIGGY'S NEW late-night talk show, dozens of portraits and magazine shoots from her years in front of the camera line the walls. There's Piggy evoking Mary Tyler Moore, Barbra Streisand, and Elizabeth Taylor. The photos span a lifetime of styles that have made this sophisticated swine shine as a celebrity in her own right. "It's a rotating exhibit," Miss Piggy says. "Some pictures are on my wall, some are in a high-security temperature-controlled storage facility, and some are on tour at major museums throughout the world." The rest are here on display in her lush new dressing room and its branching halls, and there's no shortage of them. After all, she's been doing this for almost 40 years.

But for all you think you know about Miss Piggy, get ready to see a new side to the tempestuous diva when the Muppets storm back to prime time this fall after two decades. And the entire gang is with her—Kermit, Fozzie, Gonzo, Animal, Janice, and at least 50 others—as they're lifting the curtain on their personal lives in a mockumentary-style sitcom. (Think *The Office*, but with more googly eyes.) At the heart of the series is Piggy's new *Kimmel*-esque talk show, *Up Late With Miss Piggy*, where many of the Muppets now work. (Gonzo and Rizzo are writers; Fozzie's the warm-up guy; the Swedish Chef, unfortunately, is the caterer.) But the juiciest parts of their lives—from messy relationships to the perils of Tinder and tweeting—will be revealed when the gang hits Rowlf's Tavern after work and gets a little, well, fuzzy on the Muppet sauce.

pets





(Above) Miss Piggy and Kermit the Frog; (left) Jere Burns, Meagen Fay, Fozzie Bear, and Riki Lindhome

It's all new territory for the entertainment veterans—and for their creators. While the Muppets first hit their prime-time stride in the late '70s, there's been a renewed appetite for the puppets-who-act-like-humans as of late, especially after the success of 2011's big-screen venture *The Muppets* and its 2014 follow-up, *Muppets Most Wanted*, which together grossed just under a quarter of a billion dollars worldwide. Executive producer Bill Prady (*The Big Bang Theory*), who wrote for the Muppets with creator Jim Henson 30 years ago, first pitched the idea of a mockumentary to Disney back in 2005, but Prady concedes that the digital landscape of 2015 is a better time for the series. "The characters have moved themselves into the modern world," he says. "All we're doing is putting a camera on them. It's no weirder to see Janice and Miss Piggy take a selfie than to see your co-workers do it."

"THE CHARACTERS HAVE MOVED THEMSELVES INTO THE MODERN WORLD. IT'S NO WEIRDER TO SEE JANICE AND MISS PIGGY TAKE A SELFIE THAN TO SEE YOUR CO-WORKERS DO IT."

—EP BILL PRADY

But there won't *just* be jokes about Uber drivers and selfie sticks. The humor is decidely risqué, a throwback to when the Muppets first appeared and were basically fuzzy conduits for adult satire. (One of the two original pilots for *The Muppet Show* in 1974 was titled "Sex and Violence.") "Everyone in this version wants to push them further in a way they've never been pushed before," promises exec producer Bob Kushell. Some of the more grown-up situations they'll face? Fozzie Bear dealing with Muppet-wide criticism for embarking on an interspecies relationship with his new human girlfriend (Riki Lindhome); Rizzo and Pepe stepping in to help Gonzo as he suffers the insecurities of online dating; Piggy and Kermit facing the TMZ gauntlet after their nasty breakup. Though it sounds more *Sex and the City* than *Sesame Street*, parents are encouraged to watch with their kids...but the little ones may not understand what Kermit means when he tells the camera that the band is "always happy—legally now."

In fact, staying true to the Muppets of yore is always on the producers' minds. "We're very conscientious about their past, so any big moves are looked at with a very specific eye as to how much we're going to uproot what we know of these characters," explains Kushell. (A "big move," for instance, means reexamining how Kermit and Fozzie first met, which was established in 1979's benchmark *The Muppet Movie*.) And as with the original '70s variety show, celebrity cameos and musical guests will abound. (Already confirmed are Reese Witherspoon and Liam Hemsworth.) Also remaining the same: Piggy's notorious tantrums, which now require a threat-level system in the office. Today, for instance, she's already exercised her wrath on Tom Bergeron.

Now she's walking with Kermit across the *Up Late* stage, stopping to welcome Imagine Dragons to her show. "If you need anything, just ask," she tells the band, adding, "Someone else, not me." But she sputters abruptly, then asks for a retake. It's not because she's out of practice or racked with nerves about the Muppets' big return to prime time. Instead, she faces a production problem that no celebrity diva would ever allow to go to tape: Hair got caught in her snout. —MARC SNETIKER

(PREVIOUS SPREAD) ANDREA MCCALLIN/ABC; (THIS PAGE) TOP: MICHAEL DESMOND/ABC; BOTTOM: ERIC MCCANDLESS/ABC



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TUESDAY

NEW + RETURNING



John Benjamin Hickey (left)

NCIS

SEASON 13 | 8 P.M. | *CBS*

If you've been in a complete panic since last season's cliffhanger where Gibbs (Mark Harmon) was shot by a boy in Iraq, you can breathe a sigh of relief: The 13th season of the Navy procedural picks up moments later, and after being rushed onto a hospital ship and operated on by a surgeon (played by Jon Cryer in a multiepisode arc), Gibbs emerges with his health intact—mostly. "After this life-altering experience, Gibbs sees the world a bit differently," says EP Gary Glasberg. "There are physical and psychological changes to him, which the fans and the rest of our *NCIS* family are going to be aware of. We all have to adjust to a different man." **SEPT. 22**

Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.

SEASON 3 | 9 P.M. | *ABC*

Desperate to combat the worldwide influx of Inhumans, Director Coulson (Clark Gregg) looks to Daisy "don't call her Skye" Johnson (Chloe Bennet) and the new team of Secret Warriors for help. They're not alone in the hunt: Monstrous villain Lash (Matthew Willig) and a new government agency (led by *UnREAL*'s Constance Zimmer) are also targeting Inhumans. "She's someone to be feared," EP Jed Whedon says of Zimmer's character—but could she also be a love interest for Coulson? "I hope she plays cello," Gregg says, laughing. While S.H.I.E.L.D. faces the threat of Ward's (Brett Dalton) vengeful Hydra, the season will also explore the show's other potential couples, particularly Fitz (Iain De Caestecker) and Simmons (Elizabeth Henstridge), whose fate remains unknown after being absorbed by the Kree monolith. "[Many think] she was killed," Gregg says. "Fitz has a hard time accepting that." So do we, Fitz. So do we. **SEPT. 29**

MANHATTAN

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | *WGN AMERICA*

The creators of this fictionalized story of the race to build the nuclear bomb have made no secret about where season 2 is headed: Trinity, the July 1945 test in which a plutonium device was detonated just weeks before the weapon was dropped on Japan. "A lot of this season is about the moment when this bomb ceases to be a set of numbers on a chalkboard," says creator Sam Shaw, "and becomes a practical reality instead." **OCT. 13**

The Flash

SEASON 2 | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*

Last we saw the Flash, a.k.a. Barry Allen (Grant Gustin), he'd accidentally opened a wormhole to Earth-Two, exposing Central City to a whole new world of danger. In season 2, we'll see Team Flash deal with the aftermath—and meet a swarm of new characters. EP Andrew Kreisberg introduces us to the newbies. **OCT. 6**



Grant Gustin



Jay Garrick

TEDDY SEARS

The first DC Comics character to take on the mantle of the Flash, Jay will act as a mentor to Barry—kind of. "There's a little condescension from Jay," Kreisberg says. "He's seen a lot of darkness, and he thinks Barry can be a bit naive."



Wally West

KEIYNAN LONSDALE

Destined to become the speedster known as Kid Flash, Wally is just a regular teen when we meet him this winter, though Kreisberg won't divulge how or when he transforms. "He's a wayward kid who has some attitude problems," he says.



Zoom

??????????

Even faster than the Reverse Flash, this season's Big Bad hails from Earth-Two. "Reverse Flash felt like a warrior, and what we wanted this time was something more akin to a monster," Kreisberg says, refusing to reveal who will embody the villain.



Patty Spivot

SHANTEL VANSANTEN

A police officer and potential love interest for Barry, Patty is eager to join Joe's anti-metahuman task force. "She really loves the science aspect of it—and she and Barry bond on that level—but she also loves the action," Kreisberg says.

MANHATTAN: GREG PETERS/WGN; *THE FLASH*: CATE CAMERON/THE CW; SEARS: JASON LAVERIS/FILMMAGIC.COM; LONSDALE: GILBERT CARRASQUILLO/FILMMAGIC.COM; VANSANTEN: DESIREE NAVARRO/FILMMAGIC.COM; *THE BASTARD EXECUTIONER*: OLLIE UPTON/FX; *NCIS: NEW ORLEANS*: SKIP BOLEN/CBS

Chicago Med

NEW DRAMA | 9 P.M. | NBC

Superproducer Dick Wolf's *Chicago* empire expands from *Fire* and *P.D.* to include *Med*, which will follow doctors and administrators (Oliver Platt and S. Epatha Merkerson among them) in one of the city's busiest hospitals. Despite its familiar locale and potential for crossovers—a three-way with *P.D.* and *Fire* is slated for early 2016—*Med*'s tone is a departure from its predecessors. "By virtue of the characters' education, it has to be more of an intellectual show," says EP Andrew Dettmann (who has since exited the series). The hospital is stacked with hot docs and nurses played by the likes of Colin Donnell and Yaya DaCosta, but Dettmann insists it won't be "as soapy" as *Grey's Anatomy*. "It's very focused on the medicine." **NOV. 17**

NCIS: NEW ORLEANS

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | CBS

"There's a storm coming, likes of which you never seen," warned NCIS nemesis Baitfish in season 1. The team finally vanquished the villain in the finale, giving the new season the freedom to "really dig in [on the characters]," says EP Gary Glasberg. That means more high jinks between Special Agent Dwayne "King" Pride (Scott Bakula) and his deputies, more sass from coroner Dr. Wade (CCH Pounder), and *way* more Cajun flavor. "The music, the culture, and the people of New Orleans are what make the city," Glasberg says. (The premiere even includes a cameo from NOLA stalwart Dr. John.) But it's not all sunny skies—expect a drone-focused episode involving a wedding, a murder, and the black market. **SEPT. 22**

iZombie

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | THE CW

The new season is not going to be kind to Liv Moore (Rose McIver). The revenant mortician who solves homicides by gobbling hot-sauced brains is on everyone's most-hated list—but that's what you get when you rob your archenemy of power and privilege, hide secrets from your true love, and refuse your dying brother a blood transfusion. "She's isolated in the same way she was at the beginning of the first season," McIver says. While she works it out, she'll snack-'n'-solve cases involving a grumpy old bigot and a real housewife of Seattle, and a fresh mystery will bring Liv and pals—and adversary Blaine (David Anders)—together. "The problem is that zombies start going missing," says EP Rob Thomas. "It'll force Liv and Blaine into being very strange bedfellows." Sounds dangerous—and delicious. **OCT. 6**

CCH Pounder and Scott Bakula



The Bastard Executioner

NEW DRAMA | 10 P.M. | FX

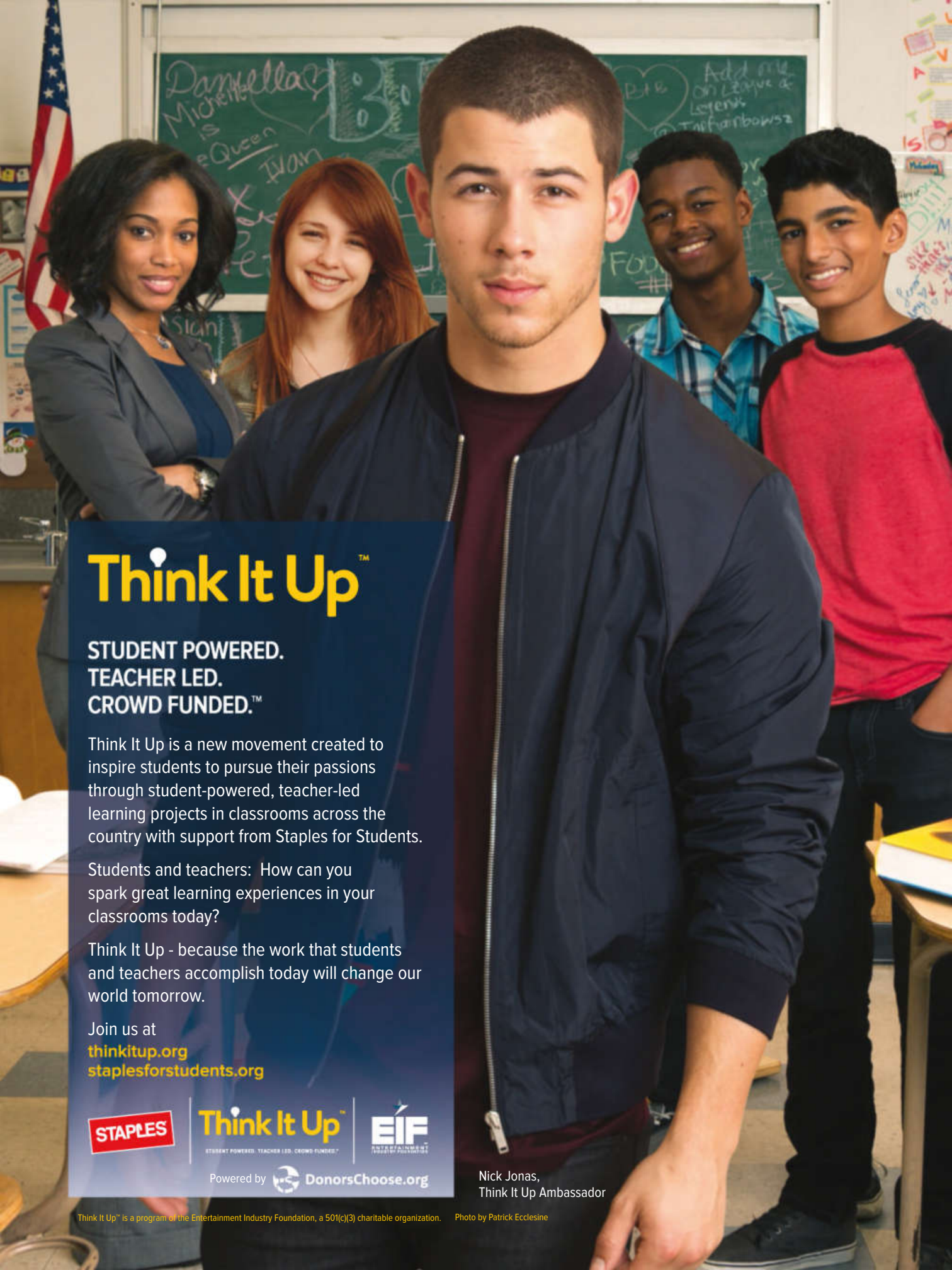


Lee Jones (right)

While there are no outlaw gangbangers on Kurt Sutter's *The Bastard Executioner*, his anticipated follow-up to *Sons of Anarchy*, the dark period piece with a heavy mystical element will still include a whole lot of killing. And if you liked ogling Charlie Hunnam on *SOA*, you'll appreciate *Bastard*'s hunky lead character, Wilkin Brattle (Australia's Lee Jones), a former knight–turned–vengeance-seeking executioner from the 14th century. "The network, rightfully so, was thinking in terms of, how do we tap into that *Sons* fan base?" admits Sutter. "But there were a few times where I really had to remind them that this wasn't medieval *SOA*." Still, he says, "I'd like to think that this show will have a lot of the things that people showed up to *Sons* for." Including hiring some of his former players: Sutter's wife, Katey Sagal, last seen lying dead as Gemma Teller Morrow, plays a complicated mystical healer who helps Brattle go undercover as an executioner in an English shire. Pop star Ed Sheeran, who recorded a cover of Foy Vance's "Make It Rain" for *SOA*'s final season, recurs as a church elder's deadly protégé. And *True Blood*'s Stephen Moyer, who plays corrupt chamberlain Milus Corbett, has his own tie to the biker series—he and wife Anna Paquin were such rabid fans that Sutter once offered them cameos. "We were obsessed," says Moyer. "It was date-night telly for us." Sutter also saved a creepy—albeit secretive—role for himself. "I just have to trust that people will show up for my brand," he says. "If not, at least then I'll get a f---ing vacation." SEPT. 15

@

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Monica Raymund and Jesse Spencer

Beyond the Tank

SEASON 2 | 10 P.M. | *ABC*

In its sophomore season, the *Shark Tank* spin-off will continue to dive into the businesses buoyed by the series' investors. "One of the challenges I always have with *Shark Tank* is, to a certain degree, we romanticize being an entrepreneur," says Robert Herjavec, whose investments in Lollacup (sippy cups) and Grill Charms (cooking accessories that indicate how well-done a slab of meat is) will be featured. "*Beyond the Tank* shows people the good, the bad, the ugly." **SEPT. 29**

Wicked City

NEW DRAMA | 10 P.M. | *ABC*

Think Ed Westwick was sinister as *Gossip Girl*'s Chuck Bass? Forget it. The actor exponentially ups the creep factor as Kent Granger, a serial killer in 1982 Los Angeles. The 11-episode season will follow two cops (Jeremy Sisto and Gabriel Luna) as they pursue Granger after a violent string of murders, but as they get a little bit closer each week, viewers may start to question whether there's a decent person hiding somewhere deep inside the criminal. "It's interesting when Kent is being the nice guy," Westwick says. "Is that part of the overall mask he wears? Or does he genuinely desire to live a normal life and be a normal person?" After all, even Chuck Bass had a heart. **OCT. 27**

CHICAGO FIRE

SEASON 4 | 10 P.M. | *NBC*

Sound the alarm: Firehouse 51 is headed for a shake-up. The arrival of a new chief (Fredric Lehne) leads to a demotion for Severide (Taylor Kinney) due to the high turnover rate on the squad. While Severide's mulling whether to stick around with a bruised ego or transfer to another house, Matt (Jesse Spencer) returns after having disappeared in last season's finale in the midst of investigating a strip club. "He had to do some pretty heavy-duty things to survive [his abduction]," says EP Matt Olmstead, adding that Matt will keep digging after learning the true criminals won't be prosecuted. In the tense aftermath, Gabby (Monica Raymund) hesitates to tell Matt she's pregnant—and when she eventually gets bounced to arson, it might get even easier to keep her secret. **OCT. 13**

WHY YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

Fresh off the Boat

SEASON 2 | 8:30 P.M. | *ABC*

THIS FISH-OUT-OF-WATER COMEDY, BASED ON CHEF EDDIE HUANG'S MEMOIR, OFFERS UP A FUNNY—AND AT TIMES POIGNANT—PICTURE OF A CHINESE-AMERICAN FAMILY ADJUSTING TO LIFE IN SUBURBAN ORLANDO IN THE '90S. IF YOU HAVEN'T TUNED IN YET, HERE ARE A FEW REASONS YOU SHOULD. —AMANDA STEINER



Constance Wu, Hudson Yang, Forrest Wheeler, and Ian Chen

1 CONSTANCE WU

Wu is undoubtedly *FOTB*'s breakout star. As Huang matriarch Jessica, she displays whip-smart comedic timing and a fiery independence, all while coming from a place of genuine love for her family. "My favorite thing is writing strong women," says showrunner Nahnatchka Khan. "Jessica doesn't apologize.... That's how she shows her love."

2 A *FRESH* PERSPECTIVE

FOTB captures what it's like for immigrant families—and first-gen kids—trying to find their place within American culture. "Eddie talks about how he wanted white food, American food, when he was younger, and he realizes as an adult that telling his mother that her food was disgusting was probably hurtful," Wu says. "But she went out and bought him the Lunchables anyway."

3 ZERO CLICHÉS

"People are so accustomed to Asians being the butt of a joke," says Wu. But you'll never hear a joke about mixed-up *r*'s and *l*'s here—the characters are individuals with their own issues, like young Eddie, who takes cues from Ol' Dirty Bastard on how to be cool. "We are leading and telling our own unique story," says Wu. "We're not just supporting someone else's." SEPT. 22

CHICAGO FIRE: ELIZABETH MORRIS/NBC; *FRESH OFF THE BOAT*: ABC

TUESDAY **WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** NATALIE ABRAMS, ANTHONY BREZNICAN, JEFF JENSEN, JOE MCGOVERN, LYNETTE RICE, C. MOLLY SMITH, AND KEVIN P. SULLIVAN



Limitless

NEW DRAMA | SEPT. 22 | 10 P.M. | *CBS*

BRIAN FINCH IS HIGH. NOT *HIGH* HIGH, BUT NZT-HIGH, AS IN WIRED-INTO-EVERY-memory-and-experience-and-morsel-of-knowledge-he's-ever-learned high, because that's what NZT, the designer drug at the center of CBS' new action thriller, does: It gives normal guys like Brian the temporary ability to do anything, once he quickly calculates how to do it. He can outrun police in the middle of a crowded square. He can leap, parkour-style, down a building's fire escapes. He can play chicken on the subway tracks with an approaching train—and survive.

And on a sunny afternoon outside a Brooklyn brownstone, he can diagnose a baby's genetic mutation because he's, once again, high on NZT. Star Jake McDorman (*Greek*, *Manhattan Love Story*), who plays Brian, crouches in front of a stroller and acts opposite the doll seated inside. "You can see it in his eyes," he says to the prop. "We could get a paternity test, but I mean..." He shrugs. "It's obvious."

The scene's oddball setup—here's a guy on drugs talking to a baby in order to solve a crime—is exactly how CBS hopes to turn viewers into addicts of the show. "There are similarly outlandish moments coming up," teases showrunner Craig Sweeny. "NZT's essentially a magic pill. There's a little bit of a 'why not?' idea that animates *Limitless*." Based on the 2011 sleeper hit starring Bradley Cooper, which was itself based on the 2001 novel *The Dark Fields* by Alan Glynn, the series picks up soon after the film's events ended, with Cooper's washed-up-writer character, Eddie Mora, having figured out a way to counteract the drug's side effects. Now a senator (and presidential hopeful), Eddie offers Brian the antidote he created in return for Brian's willingness to do his bidding. But in lieu of having Cooper appear in every episode (the actor exec-produces the series and has promised he'll turn up again), the show will introduce a man named Sands (Colin Salmon), who will keep a close eye on Brian. "Brian has a number of masters," Sweeny says. "He'll be drawn into the larger events. Who knows about NZT? Who's using NZT? Where does it come from, what are the different agendas, and who's trying to control it?"

Brian's introduction to the drug is easier to explain. A rock-star wannabe, he's given the pill by a friend who's trying to lift his spirits. In the process, he inadvertently becomes a suspect in a murder investigation and has to help FBI agent Rebecca Harris (Jennifer Carpenter) track down the real perp, which leads to a longer professional relationship between the two that sets up the show's procedural spine. "Even though it may not look like the wisest decision, she'll see it through," Carpenter says.

With all those sides of Brian to play and the fact that Cooper personally recommended McDorman for the part—the two worked together in 2014's *American Sniper*—could the actor be feeling the pressure? Not at all, he says. "I've got enough to think about. I have to sound like a genius on a daily basis!" If only there were some NZT lying around. —SHIRLEY LI





(Clockwise from far left) Jake McDorman; Jennifer Carpenter and McDorman; Alan Glynn's 2001 novel, which inspired *Limitless*

MCDORMAN: JEFF NEUMANN/CBS; WITH CARPENTER: MICHAEL PARMELEE/CBS



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Q+A



John Stamos

OF **Grandfathered**

NEW COMEDY | 8 P.M. | FOX

BETWEEN A REVIVAL OF *FULL HOUSE* AND A STARRING ROLE ON *GRANDFATHERED*, A NEW SITCOM ABOUT A SWINGING SINGLE WHO FINDS OUT HE HAS A GROWN KID (AND GRANDKID!), IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S THE YEAR OF THE STAMOS. THE ACTOR, 52, TALKS ABOUT EMBODYING THE CHARACTER, WORKING WITH BABIES, AND WHETHER HE WANTS CHILDREN OF HIS OWN. —GILLIAN TELLING

Your character, Jimmy, freaks when he finds out he has a son and a grandchild. How did you make sure he didn't come off as a jerk?
Everyone was asking that: "How do we make him relatable?" And I was like, "Just write him as who I am, because I'm a goofy guy." Making fun of myself...it's a lot of comedy. I don't think I'm some ultracool guy who's untouchable. I'm not that way in real life! And the other characters always goof on him and knock him down, which keeps it fun.

So Jimmy is basically an extension of you?
It's a little scary. I was watching the pilot the other day and was like, "Is this an *E! True Hollywood Story*?" It's a little close [to home]. The bachelor guy who's got it all but is missing something in life. What about a family? What about a relationship?

Is that arc clichéd, though? That you need love and family to be truly complete?
I think when I've been in love, I've been my most complete personally. And I think Jimmy thinks that too, but he has to go through a journey. If we get to do this for a few years, I think he'll become a fully realized man and person, whether that's having kids, being married.



Grandfathered

But until we get there, the next few years will be fun.

How is it working with the babies?
They're beautiful, they're adorable—and they're difficult. When we shot the pilot, I knew I had to get to that scene where she kissed me, but she just screamed and cried. It was like I was sticking needles into the poor kid. But I'm a baby whisperer now. I love them. Well, most of 'em.

So is the show making you broody? Is John Stamos also ready for the wife and kids?
I've always wanted that. Well, I want to have a wife first. But I'm thinking really seriously about that situation now. I think I should really be a dad at some point.

Did working with the Olsen twins on *Full House* when they were babies prepare you for *Grandfathered* in any way?
Yeah. I always whisper into the new babies' ears, "You better behave if you want to be a billionaire. If you do this scene, you too can have your own clothing line."

SEPT. 29

STAMOS: MAARTEN DE BOER/CONTOUR BY GETTY IMAGES; *GRANDFATHERED*: ERICA PARISE/FOX

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FALL TV PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY

WED



Trai Byers, Bryshere Y. Gray, Taraji P. Henson, Terrence Howard, and Jussie Smollett photographed on Feb. 12, 2015, in New York City

PHOTOGRAPH BY **MARC HOM**



Empire

SEPT. 23 ◢ 9 P.M. ◢ *FOX*
SEASON 2



"TELL HER YOU LIKE HER WIG!" SHOUTS *EMPIRE* CO-CREATOR Danny Strong from behind the monitors. It's a humid Monday morning on the Chicago set of Fox's gargantuan, soapy hit drama, and Strong is helming the fourth episode of the second season. The always colorful Cookie Lyon (Taraji P. Henson) is in a police interrogation room, engaged in a vicious back-and-forth with district attorney Roxanne Ford (Tyra Ferrell). Ford wants to take down the Lyon family, particularly patriarch Lucious (Terrence Howard), in order to further her political aspirations. "If I give you what you need, you gotta let me out tonight," Cookie pleads. "I can't miss another night with my sons. I've missed too many." The women finally reach an agreement, which leads to Cookie complimenting Ford's weave (something she had earlier compared to yak hair). "And I like your wig," Ford replies with not-so-subtle shade. Ferrell's delivery leads both women to erupt in laughter at the end of the take.

No show on television is having a better time than *Empire*. It became the biggest and most talked-about network series last winter, with astounding ratings growth week after week. But it wasn't just important because of how well it did—it also opened up Hollywood's eyes to the value of diversity on screen. "Now we have proof that there is an audience for black-motivated shows or urban-centered dramas," Terrence Howard told EW in June. "So it's tearing up the paradigm. It's allowing more people to come into the game that have been told that we really didn't have a place in this world yet." But that also means more eyes will now be watching *Empire* this fall to see if it can sustain its success. "I think collectively we've decided not to put any kind of pressure on ourselves, just to keep getting better and not get ahead of ourselves because of all the hype," says Henson, who landed an Emmy nomination for her performance as the explosive Lyon matriarch.

> **NOW WE HAVE PROOF THAT THERE IS AN AUDIENCE FOR BLACK-MOTIVATED SHOWS OR URBAN-CENTERED DRAMAS. IT'S TEARING UP THE PARADIGM."**
>
> —TERRENCE HOWARD

The major difference this year is that there will actually be more *Empire*. Compared with the first season, which comprised 12 episodes, Fox has ordered 18 this round. Creatively, the producers say it helps to have more time to play out the stories. "Moving fast was a lot of the fun of the show, but at times we moved too quickly," admits Strong. "So the fact that we have more episodes is sort of naturally slowing us down a little bit. Although the episodes themselves will still have those explosive, crazy *Empire* moments."

The premiere will pick up roughly three months after the finale, with Lucious still in jail for Bunkie's murder. "Lucious Lyon in prison is probably a bigger star than he is out in the real world, because the prison population absolutely reveres him in a very integral way," says executive producer Ilene Chaiken. Meanwhile, middle son Jamal (Jussie Smollett) has been installed as the head of the family's record label, Empire, but the job comes with its challenges. "Season 1 was hung on that premise of 'Who will inherit the throne?'" says Chaiken. "We identified the central story line of season 2 as warring kingdoms." The major battle, of course, will be the hostile company takeover led by mother Cookie, younger brother Hakeem (Bryshere Y. Gray), older brother Andre

CHUCK HODES/FOX (3)



(Clockwise from far left) Gail Rastorfer, Howard, and Montae Dixon; Henson; Gray



(Trai Byers), and Lucious' ex-fiancée Anika (Grace Gealey). The company drama bleeds into the family and puts stress on relationships, particularly the previously close Cookie and Jamal. Says Smollett, "To Jamal, loyalty is the most important thing, and the moment he thinks somebody is disloyal it changes his perspective completely." Producers say another big part of the season will be introducing more of both Lucious' and Cookie's family members. Kelly Rowland will appear in flashbacks as Lucious' mother, who struggles with bipolar disorder. While we've already met Cookie's sister Carol (Tasha Smith), Chaiken says that Cookie's other relatives are "troublesome, to say the least."

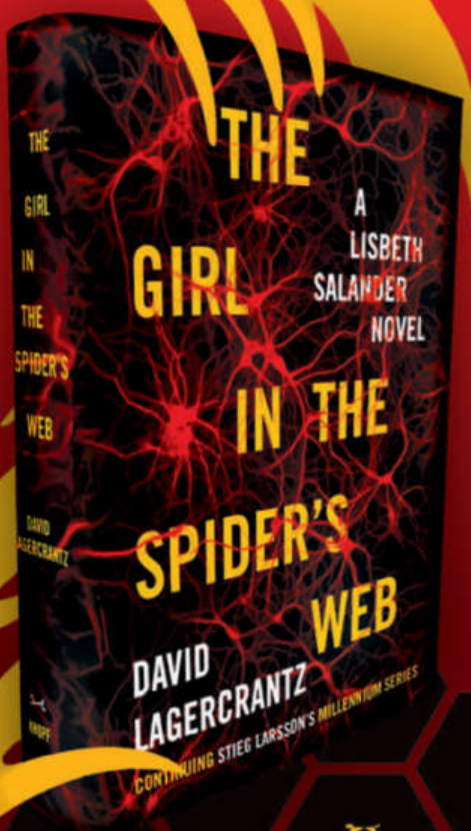
While the show's focus will stay on the Lyons, season 2 will also feature some bold-faced guest stars, including Chris Rock as an inmate, Ludacris as a prison guard, Adam Rodriguez as Cookie's love interest, and Marisa Tomei as a lesbian businesswoman who becomes an important figure in the play for Empire. "She's an integral part of Cookie's plan and her posse," says Chaiken. But perhaps someone who's not totally loyal. Jokes Chaiken, "This is *Empire*—can you trust anyone?"

Of course, music will remain central to the show, with the soundtrack again shepherded by Timbaland. Ne-Yo and Pitbull will contribute tunes this season, and a new Latina girl group, discovered by Hakeem, will be added to the mix. But the most anticipated artist dropping by? Co-creator Lee Daniels' good friend Mariah Carey. Rumors of a cameo have been circulating for months; Daniels confirms she's on board. "We're trying to crack the story for her now," he reveals, saying she'll likely turn up in the season finale. "As with Mariah, she wants it her way, but as with Lee Daniels, I want it my way. So it's the usual back-and-forth with mamacita. We're very excited about it." As are we—we can only imagine the fur that will fly when Mimi meets Cookie. —TIM STACK

"THRILLINGLY GOOD"
—ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

SHE'S BACK

STIEG LARSSON'S MILLENNIUM SERIES CONTINUES



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SET DECONSTRUCTION

American Horror Sto

SEASON 5 | OCT. 7 | 10 P.M. | FX

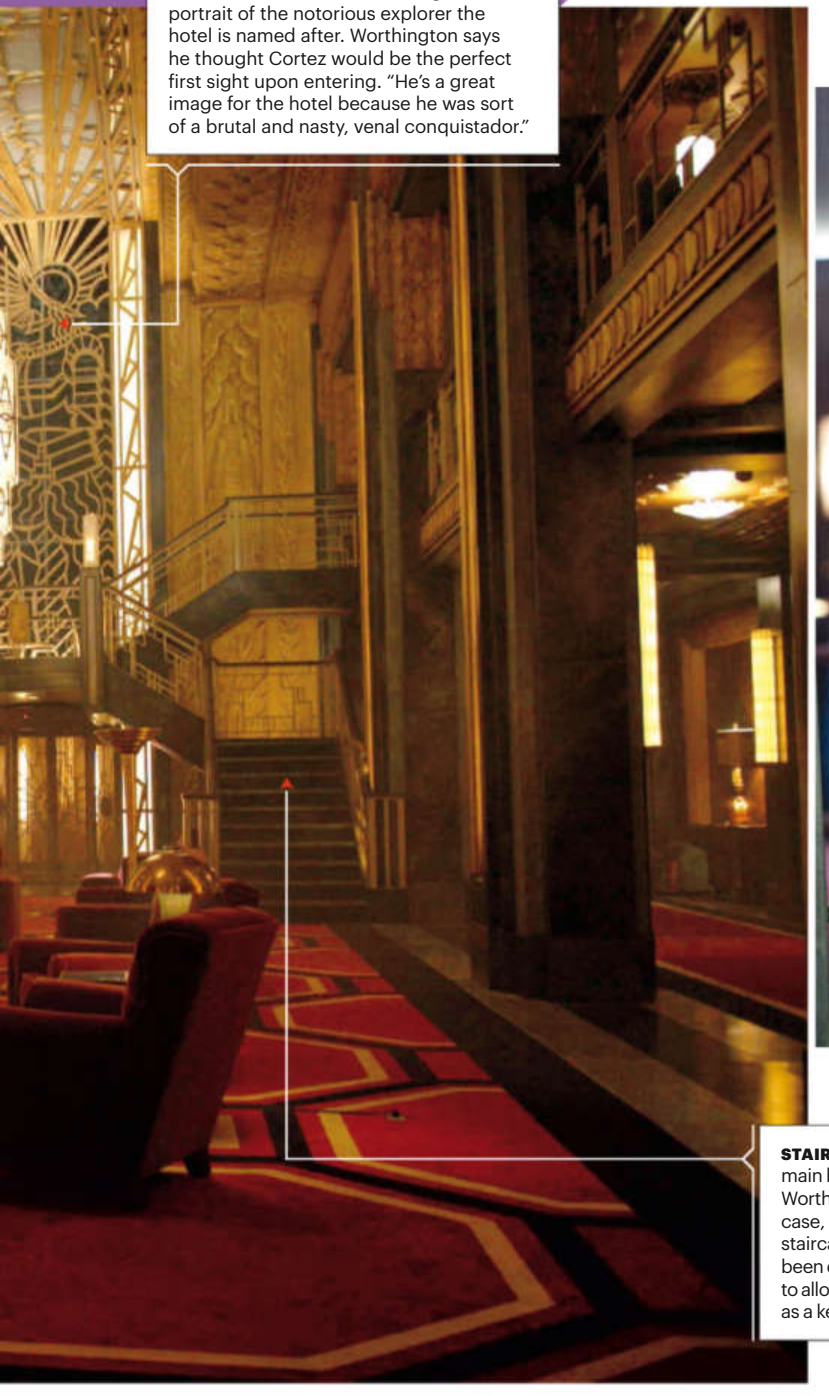


Each season of *American Horror Story* has centered on a spooky location: a haunted house, a mental hospital, a creepy old school, and a carnival full of freaks and geeks. For its fifth iteration, appropriately subtitled *Hotel*, the production design team of *AHS*, who have been nominated for three Emmys, unleash their most stunning creation yet: the Hotel Cortez. According to the show's lore, the hotel was built in 1930 by a murderer named James March (Evan Peters) and in modern day serves as home to blood-sucking villainess the Countess (Lady Gaga). The hotel is not only her abode but also a place full of dark corners where she can kill...and hide the evidence. "This show is crack cocaine for designers," says production designer Mark Worthington, whose team built the two-story lobby—the Cortez's crown jewel, complete with a second-floor bar and working elevator—in just seven weeks. "It's not just creating fun scenery that looks like a nice background—you're creating scenery that's a character." Here, Worthington walks us through the lobby and reveals the inspiration for the grand set. —TIM STACK

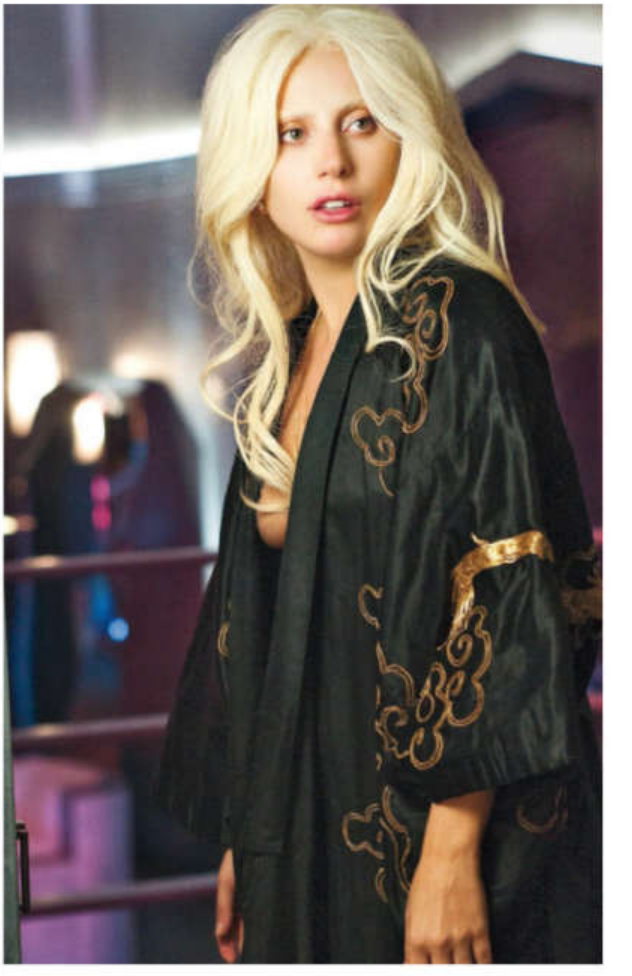
ARCHITECTS DIGESTED While there's no specific hotel the Cortez is based on, Worthington said he was inspired by art-deco architects William Van Alen and Timothy Pflueger. "Tonally, I thought [art deco] would make sense for the horror genre because it can be dark and spiky and odd and the composition is strange. It's beautiful, but it isn't necessarily inviting."

ry: Hotel

CONQUERING NAMESAKE Above the hotel's elaborate staircase is a giant metal portrait of the notorious explorer the hotel is named after. Worthington says he thought Cortez would be the perfect first sight upon entering. "He's a great image for the hotel because he was sort of a brutal and nasty, venal conquistador."



DEVIL IN THE DETAILS Nearly everything in the Cortez has been created by Worthington and his team, from the bar coasters to the keys featuring the hotel insignia to the central light fixtures. They even included tiny homages, like column carvings of a Venus flytrap. "A little bit of a cheeky joke, but it's obviously an image that's perfect for this season and for Gaga," explains Worthington. "That's really her character."



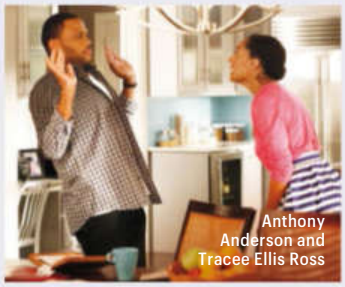
STAIRWAY TO HELL "Every year in the main big set we have a staircase," explains Worthington. "Ryan [Murphy] loves a staircase, and so do I. So the genesis of any staircase has to do with avoiding what has been done in the past." The staircase also had to allow room for the elevator, which will serve as a key location for much of *Hotel*'s action.

AMERICAN HORROR STORY: HOTEL: SUZANNE TENNER/FX(2)

Black-ish

SEASON 2 | SEPT. 23 | 9:30 P.M. | ABC

Race, gun control, and economic disparity don't exactly scream comedy, but issues like these make up the backbone of one of television's funniest sophomore series. When *Black-ish* returns for season 2, the ABC show will continue to explore what it means to be a well-off African-American family, while remaining true to the comedic roots of creator Kenya Barris. "We're being as honest and unapologetic as we can," says star Anthony Anderson, explaining that the show resonates with people because of those qualities. This season is likely to spark even more dialogue, with episodes touching on the N-word ("Who has the right to say it? Should it be said at all?" asks Anderson) and gun ownership ("Rainbow [Tracee Ellis Ross] is opposed to it, and the kids thought we already had one—they're like, 'You had us flapping in the wind?!'"). Though Anderson isn't in the writers' room, he says major arcs often unfold following conversations he has with Barris. "We just talk about life and experiences, and the next thing I know, there'll be a complete episode based on the conversation!" Working with Ross is similarly inspiring, says Anderson: "Tracee and I have known each other for a little more than a decade, but this is the first time we've actually worked this intimately together. I learn from her every day." We turned to the writers' room to get a feel for what else inspires them. —AMANDA STEINER

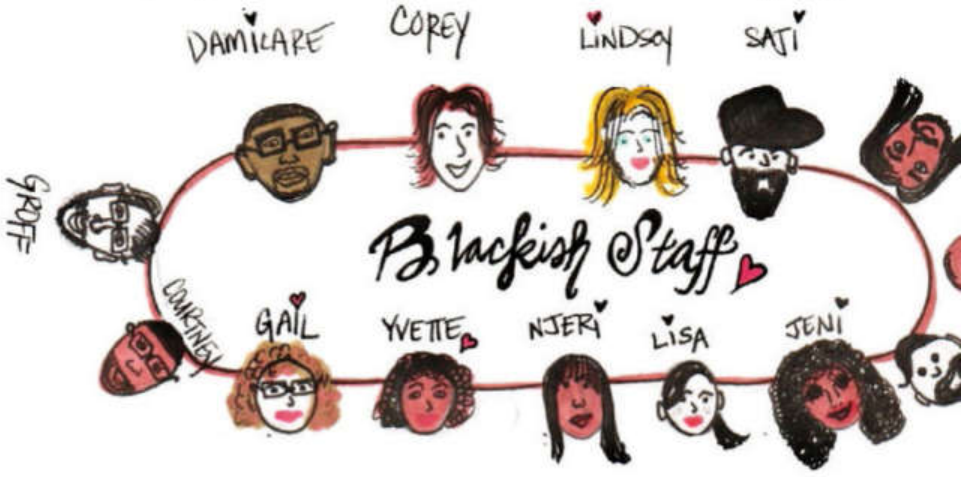


Anthony Anderson and Tracee Ellis Ross

WRITERS' ROOM PROFILE

1 **Draw a simple bird's-eye-view diagram of the room.**

(* We've also attached a bird's-eye view of our writer's room from the perspective of a small, flightless, obese bird. Enjoy!)



2 **What's the soundtrack of your writers' room, and who's the resident DJ?**

A "YouTube" recording of Ving Rhames being prank called by Ving Rhames plays at low volume

Treat yourself to a YouTube search of: "Meet Me Somewhere."

3 **The office's best baker is**

(* see below)

and he/she always makes the most delicious

Everything!

* we are contractually obligated to say Anthony Anderson. Please watch his cooking show on Food Network.

4 The three most commonly ordered delivery dishes:

- (A) the lackluster Chinese Chicken salad from that place.
- (B) the lackluster Chinese Chicken salad from that other place.
- (C) the good Chinese Chicken salad from the place where none of us can remember the name of.

Most likely to delay the order due to indecision:

Whoever asks which place has the good Chinese Chicken Salad.



5 Which TV show does everyone *need* to stay current on?

The 1970's classic, "Black Omnibus" with James Earl Jones.



6 Which TV show gets referenced most?

Groff's failed pilots. (By Groff)

7 What do you do when you reach a stalemate or room-wide wall?

We go home.

8 Which characters on your show do you ship?

What is "ship"?

9 List the items on your inspiration/vision board.

Just reached a stalemate. Went home.

10 The typical volume level of the room (on a scale of 1 to 10):

Ten, when we get the Ving Rhames video going.



11 When does happy hour start? Is there a signature cocktail?

Four-o-clock Fridays: Champagne, Pomegranate Margaritas & our favorite Hank-grias!

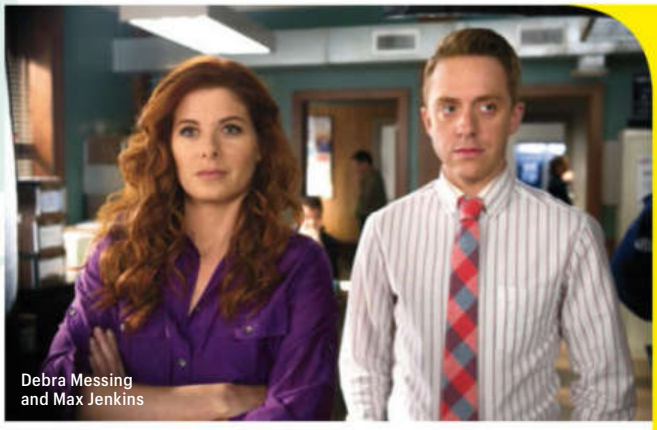
12 What's one of your room traditions?

Magazine surveys. (Thank you for including us!)



BLACK-ISH: KELSEY MCNEAL/ABC; CHICKEN SALAD: STEVE COHEN/GETTY IMAGES; RHAMES: SGRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM; JONES: EVERETT COLLECTION

NEW + RETURNING


Debra Messing and Max Jenkins

The Middle

SEASON 7 | 8 P.M. | *ABC*

Good news for Sue (Eden Sher): She's going to college! Bad news for the Hecks: Sue's going to college. "It kind of throws a little wrench into what they're used to," co-creator Eileen Heisler says. For Mike (Neil Flynn), that means a midlife crisis; for Frankie (Patricia Heaton), it means newfound loneliness. "It's going to be pretty tough for Frankie, because Sue is her best friend in the house, someone she could relate to and talk to and shop with," Heaton says. But things are looking up for Brick (Atticus Shaffer), who's now an eighth grader. "He says, 'It's the Year of Brick now!'" says Heisler. "He's now the oldest kid in the school, and he's enjoying whatever perks there are of that. And he still has his girlfriend, Cindy, who wants to take their relationship to the next level. Whatever that means!" **SEPT. 23**

Survivor Cambodia: Second Chance

SEASON 31 | 8 P.M. | *CBS*

Talk about coming full circle: May 31 not only marked the start of filming of *Second Chance*—where all 20 contestants are former *Survivor* players who didn't quite grab the brass ring—but also coincided with the anniversary of the show's debut. "It's kind of bizarre how that worked out," notes longtime host Jeff Probst. "Fifteen years later, we are literally starting shooting on the same day we premiered in 2000." Also fitting? One of the returning contestants is season 1's Kelly Wiglesworth, who lost to Richard Hatch by a mere vote. She'll have her work cut out for her during this attempt at nabbing the million dollars: "We have more people with a shot to win than we've ever had," says Probst. **SEPT. 23**

THE MYSTERIES OF LAURA

SEASON 2 | 8 P.M. | *NBC*

"It feels good to be back," Debra Messing says of returning to the role of Laura on the lighthearted detective drama for its sophomore season. But changes are afoot at the precinct—there's a new (female!) captain in town, and ex-husband Jake (Josh Lucas), who's lost his memory post-shooting, becomes Laura's detective partner. "I think fans are really going to be excited about seeing them as partners," she says. "Being out in the field all those hours and having to co-parent at the same time lends itself to more comic and dramatic possibilities." And what about romantic possibilities, especially given that Jake doesn't remember telling Laura he still has feelings for her? "Things are pretty much the same as they were," Messing says. "But there's this hanging question. For both of them." **SEPT. 23**

Arrow

SEASON 4 | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*

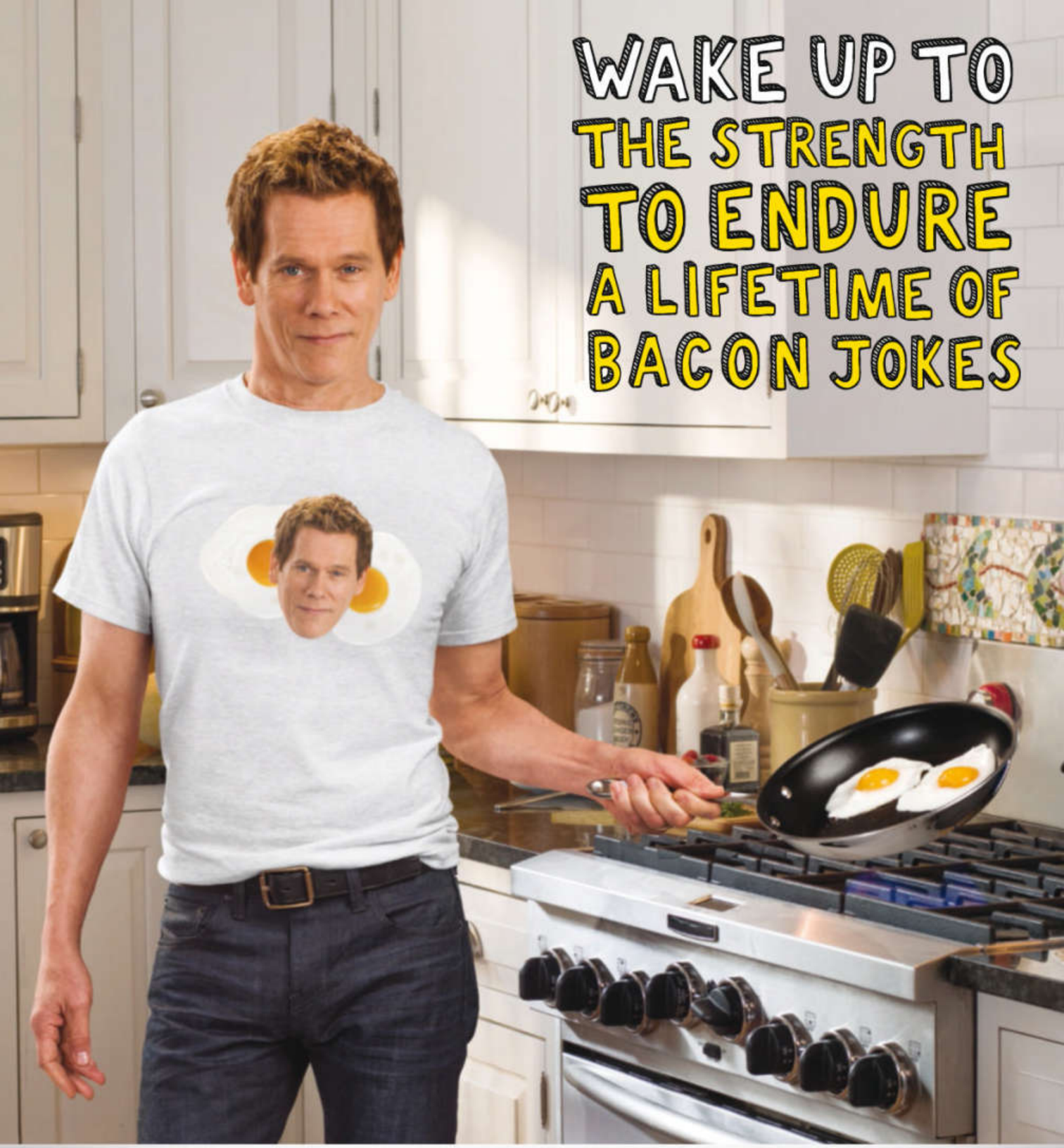

Stephen Amell

A shift is coming to Starling City: Oliver Queen (Stephen Amell) will be moving closer to his comic-book destiny when he finally becomes Green Arrow. With this shift comes a new tone. "We played him as a guy with PTSD for the first three years," EP Marc Guggenheim says. "Now he's put those demons to rest, or so he thinks, and there's a lightness to him." However, not everyone is happy about Oliver returning, particularly Diggle (David Ramsey), who's eager to face new nemesis Damien Darhk (Neal McDonough). This season, which toys with mysticism, will also see other members of Team Arrow realizing their potential. Felicity (Emily Bett Rickards) takes over Ray Palmer's (Brandon Routh) company after his apparent death, and Thea (Willa Holland) suffers from the effects of the Lazarus Pits, which will be used to resurrect Sara Lance (Caity Lotz) with the help of *Constantine*'s titular antihero (Matt Ryan). Says Guggenheim, "It still feels like *Arrow*, but it's a different take on the show." **OCT. 7**

@

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THE MYSTERIES OF LAURA: ERIC LIEBOWITZ/NBC; *ARROW*: KATIE YU/THE CW



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Q+A

Morris Chestnut

OF **Rosewood**

NEW DRAMA | 8 P.M. | *FOX*

AFTER YEARS OF SUPPORTING ROLES ON TV SERIES (*NURSE JACKIE*, *LEGENDS*) AND IN MOVIES (*THE BEST MAN HOLIDAY*), THE 46-YEAR-OLD ACTOR IS NOW A LEADING MAN, HEADING UP FOX'S NEW PROCEDURAL AS A PATHOLOGIST WHO HELPS SOLVE MIAMI'S MOST SENSATIONAL CRIMES. WE TALKED TO THE STAR ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO FINALLY CARRY A SHOW, AND HOW HE GETS INTO CHARACTER AS THE BRAINY (AND BRAWNY!) DR. BEAUMONT ROSEWOOD. —NINA TERRERO

You've appeared in more than a dozen TV shows and films—what had to happen for you to get your first leading role on a series?
It was a combination of things. I've been around a long time...but I believe the *The Best Man Holiday* performing as well as it did played a role. And doing an arc on *Nurse Jackie* as a doctor allowed network execs to see that I can handle the medical jargon.
What excites you about playing Dr. Rosewood?
I read the script and it was fun, humorous, light. And the character was smart, intelligent, and witty. Those characteristics were things I definitely wanted to see in my next part. Rosewood is very happy. I'm having fun, telling jokes, in a way people haven't seen [from me] in a long time.
The show takes place in Miami, and your costar Jaina Lee Ortiz is Latina. Is diversity a priority on *Rosewood*?
Because of *Empire* and the success of other shows, there's been a huge push for diversity across all the networks. We definitely represent everybody on the show. And because we are in Miami, we have a big Latino influence. That's what Miami is. We wanted to stay true to that. **SEPT. 23**





Nick Jonas

The Goldbergs

SEASON 3 | 8:30 P.M. | *ABC*

Big changes are coming to the Goldbergs—but don't worry, they're completely normal and all kids go through them: Young Adam (Sean Giambrone) is finally hitting puberty. Creator Adam F. Goldberg promises that smother-mother Beverly (Wendi McLendon-Covey) "tries to be the one mother who makes sure her son doesn't suffer through puberty, and in doing so, makes everything worse." Another change? More girl-centric arcs, now that big brother Barry's (Troy Gentile) girlfriend, Lainey (AJ Michalka), is a regular and can cavort with sis Erica (Hayley Orrantia). But there will still be '80s gems for everyone this year, with episodes devoted to *Short Circuit* and Milli Vanilli. "Puberty has decimated the school's talent pool, so they decide to Milli Vanilli their way through *A Chorus Line*," Goldberg says. **SEPT. 23**

Criminal Minds

SEASON 11 | 9 P.M. | *CBS*

Real-life pregnancies prompted the departure of stars A.J. Cook (temporarily) and Jennifer Love Hewitt (for good), so this season Aisha Tyler is stepping in for a recurring role as a forensic psychologist who's an expert on serial killers. But something's still off in the behavioral-analysis unit. "We're still down a female in the field," says EP Erica Messer. "It feels awkward. So we're either going to bring in a new main cast member or have some strong female guest stars." Either way, all hands will be on deck this season as the team faces an unusually destructive network of foes, inspired by the bust-up of the online black market Silk Road. "What about those people willing to do those things?" asks Messer. "They find an underground way to do it." **SEPT. 30**

Law & Order: SVU

SEASON 17 | 9 P.M. | *NBC*

In last season's finale, Detective Amaro (Danny Pino) took off for California, leaving Olivia Benson (Mariska Hargitay) without a confidant and Amanda Rollins (Kelli Giddish) without a romantic partner. This year, expect the squad to go through even more transitions. "Wherever people are when this season starts, they will not be in that same place when it ends," teases EP and showrunner Warren Leight. The department will also be seriously understaffed—Amaro's replacement won't arrive for a while, and it won't exactly be smooth sailing when it happens. "Nobody likes it when a new boss comes in who knows less about the job than you do," Leight says. **SEPT. 23**

KINGDOM

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M.
DIRECTV

As the creator of a drama about mixed martial artists, Byron Balasco strives to accurately represent the ever-evolving (and super-intense) subculture. And with Ronda Rousey dominating the field as of late, it's no surprise that Balasco added female fighter Alicia Mendez (Natalie Martinez) to the cast this season. "It's so much of what's going on in the sport right now," Balasco says. Mendez joins the MMA gym owned by Alvey Kulina (Frank Grillo) to fight alongside Nate (Nick Jonas), Ryan (Matt Lauria), and Jay (Jonathan Tucker). But unlike Rousey, she's not quite a champ yet. "She just needs a shot," Martinez says. **OCT. 14**

KINGDOM: JUSTIN LUBIN/DIRECTTV; *ROSEWOOD*: JEFF DALY/FOX

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Modern Family

SEASON 7 | 9 P.M. | *ABC*

In a tale as old as time, the unlikely flirtation between beautiful Dunphy daughter Haley (Sarah Hyland) and goofy "manny" Andy (Adam Devine) drove much of the plot last season. And though the finale saw Andy speeding off to propose to his girlfriend, co-creator Christopher Lloyd assures us this love story is far from over. "The premiere follows a tumultuous summer that takes up where we left off with Haley and Andy," Lloyd says. "It's a relationship that we follow through the entire season." Elsewhere, college freshman Alex (Ariel Winter) will find herself outsmarted by a 15-year-old genius roommate at Caltech; Gloria (Sofia Vergara) will tap into her entrepreneurial side with bottled hot sauce; and Cam (Eric Stonestreet) and Mitchell (Jesse Tyler Ferguson) will play innkeepers, renting their upstairs addition to a revolving cast of characters exciting and new, including a group of frat boys in town for a football game. No word yet on whether Manny (Rico Rodriguez) will play concierge. **SEPT. 23**

THE LEAGUE

SEASON 7 | 10 P.M. | *FXX*

"A show shouldn't have a warm-down," EP Jeff Schaffer says about the deranged comedy's upcoming final season. "You should hit the finish line and have a heart attack." The guest stars stepping in to help the fantasy-football sitcom suffer that cardiac arrest? Ike Barinholtz, Rob Riggle, Will Forte, and Seth Rogen, who will reprise his role of librarian/pornographer Dirty Randy. Paul Scheer, who plays much-ridiculed plastic surgeon Andre, says the plan is to wrap up *The League* in an audience-satisfying fashion while still allowing for a chance to revisit the characters down the line. "Unless Andre kills them all," he says. "Which is a very strong possibility." **SEPT. 9**

Chicago P.D.

SEASON 3 | 10 P.M. | *NBC*

After blaming herself for colleague Nadia's death last season, Lindsay (Sophia Bush) turned to drugs and alcohol before ultimately quitting the Intelligence Unit in the finale. "Lindsay is in a very bad place," Bush says. So much so that Jay (Jesse Lee Soffer) doesn't even recognize her when they bump into each other in the season premiere. It takes one of the unit's own being kidnapped for Lindsay to eventually snap out of it, but getting her badge back won't be an easy feat, especially when Sergeant Voight's (Jason Beghe) dark side resurfaces. "We never wanted to whitewash his past," EP Matt Olmstead says, promising that Voight's old mistakes will come back to haunt him—and maybe the rest of the squad. **SEPT. 30**



Stephen Rannazzisi and Katie Aselton

WHY YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

You're the Worst

SEASON 2 | 10:30 P.M. | *FXX*



Chris Geere and Aya Cash

IF YOU'RE NOT WATCHING *WORST* BECAUSE YOU'RE ALLERGIC TO SHARP DIALOGUE, WINNING PERFORMANCES, AND A RECOGNIZABLE (IF RAUNCHY) PORTRAIT OF THIRTY-SOMETHING LIFE, THEN PLEASE CONTINUE TO AVOID THIS SITCOM. BUT IF YOU'RE NOT WATCHING BECAUSE YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TERRIBLE PEOPLE DOING TERRIBLE THINGS, THEN LET US CORRECT YOU. —CLARK COLLIS

1

THE CHARACTERS ARE THE BEST

The show has nothing to do with actual bad people. According to creator Stephen Falk, "The misapprehension might be that they're just mean people and it's a mean show. In fact, it's a giant, gooey rom-com." Last season we first met the toxic lovers-to-be, Brit novelist Jimmy (Chris Geere) and boozy music publicist Gretchen (Aya Cash), who crossed paths at a wedding and embarked on a no-strings-attached hookup situation. Which obviously got complicated.

2

SEASON 2 IS EVEN BETTER

This year Gretchen and Jimmy are cohabitating, thanks to Gretchen having set fire to her apartment with a vibrator in last year's finale. "We end up dealing with something we never imagined we'd have to deal with," says Geere. "I can safely say this season is better than the last."

3

SUNDAY FUNDAY IS THE *BESTEST*

Cash promises fans will see another all-day-boozing-and-eating Sunday Funday episode and a rap battle between her clients—but a little less of the actress herself. "I say to Stephen, 'Now that we're in a relationship, she should be wearing a shirt here, shouldn't she?'" Cash laughs. "I feel if you print this, he'll be like, 'She's been manipulating me!'" Sorry—*we're* the worst. **SEPT. 9**

THE LEAGUE: PATRICK MCELHENNEY/FX; *YOU'RE THE WORST*: BYRON COHEN/FX



YouTube / LillySingh + 6,253,055 FANS

Q+A

Marcia Gay Harden

OF **Code Black**

NEW DRAMA | 10 P.M. | *CBS*



AT THE HEART OF THE MEDICAL MADNESS ON *CODE BLACK*, WHICH TAKES PLACE IN LOS ANGELES' BUSIEST EMERGENCY ROOM, IS DR. LEANNE RORISH (MARCIA GAY HARDEN), A TOUGH BOSS TO A NEW CROP OF RESIDENTS WHO DOESN'T ALWAYS FOLLOW PROTOCOL IN ORDER TO SAVE LIVES. *EW* TALKED TO HARDEN ABOUT THE TRICKS TO PLAYING DOCTOR. —KEVIN P. SULLIVAN.

Is shooting in a hectic ER environment a totally new experience?
The [real] doctors on set were joking, saying, "Oh, you guys are going to have to get used to this. We work at least a 12-hour shift." We were all like, "Uh-huh. We work a 15-to-16-hour shift, so we've got it." Not that we're saving lives. We're SAG members, not M.D.s.

How do you handle the intensity on set?
It's ridiculous! But you get in the moment. The camera is rolling, and you know you need the thoracotomy tray. You need the scalpel. If someone doesn't hand it to you, you start barking orders like you're a real doctor.

Sounds like you're falling into character!
The actors all joke amongst themselves that if we were in the airport and someone said, "Is there a doctor in the house?" we would jump. We would want to do something. And then we realized we'd save their life but get sued in the process. It's best to just be actors.

How difficult was it to master the jargon?
You're saying things like "Push another 10 units of etomidate, please." Even me saying that quickly and clearly, I'm thinking, "What the eff is she talking about?"

Is it ever a relief to have a scene where you're just talking, not operating?
Yes! You're like, "Oh, yay! A scene in the lounge. Fantastic!" I don't have to learn any medicine. I don't have to say, "Push another 10 of etomidate." **SEPT. 30**

MOONBEAM CITY

NEW COMEDY | 10:30 P.M. | *COMEDY CENTRAL*

The titular location of the new animated comedy *Moonbeam City* is a futuristic (yet '80s-inspired) fantasy world that's overrun with crime and patrolled by a dim playboy cop named Dazzle Novak. "*Miami Vice* is a big inspiration," says creator Scott Gairdner. "But I wanted to take the veneer of those types of shows and push it in a stupider direction." Not lacking for star power, characters are voiced by Elizabeth Banks, Will Forte, and Kate Mara, with Rob Lowe playing Novak. "Who could play a handsome idiot from the '80s better than Rob Lowe?" asks Gairdner. "I racked my brain for one second before realizing we were never, ever going to top him." **SEPT. 16**

Nashville

SEASON 4 | 10 P.M. | *ABC*

If y'all are still wondering who flatlined after that liver transplant—Rayna's boyfriend, Deacon (Charles Esten), or his sister?—you'll quickly find out when the country drama returns. "Rayna's love life is going to become very clear within the first five minutes of the first episode," says star Connie Britton. Does that mean wedding bells? Britton won't say. Meanwhile, fellow country diva Juliette Barnes (Hayden Panetierre) is back on top of her game professionally...but personally, maybe not so much. "One of the things that we're looking at is, what's it like on the inside when you're a star?" asks showrunner Dee Johnson. "It looks fantastic from the outside." **SEPT. 23**



South Park

SEASON 19 | 10 P.M. | *COMEDY CENTRAL*

By six weeks before a show's new season, usually scripts have been written, episodes filmed, and story arcs blueprinted. "We had our first sit-down to talk about an idea for a show in early August," says co-creator/writer/director/voice of half the characters Trey Parker. While the cartoon satire prides itself on its topicality, Parker says it's harder to maintain the pace these days. Which may explain why, according to Parker, every show last season had the same running theme: "We can't keep up." Perhaps the show will continue to shift in perspective toward older-generation characters like Randy? "Expect a lot of Stan's grandpa in season 19," he jokes. **SEPT. 16**

CODE BLACK: RICHARD CARTWRIGHT/CBS; *MOONBEAM CITY*: COMEDY CENTRAL; PADALECKI AND ACKLES: CHRISTOPHER POLK/GETTY IMAGES

WEDNESDAY **WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** NATALIE ABRAMS, KYLE ANDERSON, ARIANA BACLE, ISABELLA BIEDENHARN, CLARK COLLIS, JESSICA DERSCHOWITZ, DARREN FRANICH, SAMANTHA HIGHFILL, LYNETTE RICE, DALTON ROSS, MARC SNETIKER, AND AMY WILKINSON

Supernatural

SEASON 11 | 9 P.M. | *THE CW*

The Winchester brothers have dedicated—and often lost—their lives to doing what they love: saving people and hunting things. But when season 10 ended, Dean (Jensen Ackles) and Sam (Jared Padalecki) were faced with the most mysterious demon yet: the Darkness, which enveloped them. We turned to *Supernatural* fans to ask what they wanted to know about the upcoming season, then took their questions straight to the stars to discuss what lies ahead. (Or beneath, or whatever.) **OCT. 7**



Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles

What will the dynamic of their relationship be like this season?
@KITTY_KAT2015

ACKLES This is a story that predates the biblical Revelations, so it's something they have never dealt with. What that does as far as their dynamic goes is it puts them back in the car on the same team together, having one target and being unified in that mission.
PADALECKI We're finally accepting the fact that we're stronger together than apart.

Does this season remind you of any past seasons?
@TVDSWEETNESS

ACKLES It's a bit of a throwback to maybe season 1 or season 2, when the brothers were fighting less with each other and fighting more for humanity as a team.
PADALECKI It feels season 4-ish, where we're fighting against something that's so much bigger than we are. It's the boys realizing that they can't do this on their own and they're going to have to reach out to get all the help they can get.

How will Sam's visions play into this season?
*@KRISTYL_*

PADALECKI When these visions start, he's less concerned with what's happening in the visions and more concerned with why he's getting them and who's sending them to him. We'll see Sam doing something we've never really seen him do—pray.

I'm hoping for some lighter, fun episodes this season. Will we see any?
@SPN_SHERRY

PADALECKI I'll give you a hint: I'm on my way to shoot a car-wash scene.

@

Follow *@mishacollins* for live-tweets and sarcastic comments

LEGAL NOTICE

If You Bought Products at a Michael Kors Outlet Store You May Be Eligible for a Payment from a Class Action Settlement

A Settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit concerning the labeling and marketing of merchandise sold in Michael Kors Outlet Stores during the period July 25, 2010 through July 25, 2014. The lawsuit alleges that Michael Kors deceptively and misleadingly labeled and marketed merchandise that it sells at its Michael Kors Outlet Stores, including by using allegedly misleading price tags on its Michael Kors Outlet Products, which Plaintiffs claim resulted in damages to Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class. Michael Kors maintains that its marketing and labeling is not deceptive or misleading, and is entirely proper and permitted by law.

Who's included?

You are included in the Settlement Class if between July 25, 2010, and July 25, 2014 you purchased at least one item at a Michael Kors Outlet Store that was sold with a price tag showing both an "MSRP" (Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price) and an "Our Price." These items do not include watches, jewelry, fragrances, eyewear or any other product that did not have a price tag that showed both an "MSRP" and an "Our Price." The Settlement Class does not include directors, officers or employees of Michael Kors, its parents and subsidiaries, or any entity in which Michael Kors has a controlling interest.

What are the Settlement terms?

Michael Kors has agreed to establish a Settlement Fund of $4,875,000 from which Settlement Class Members will receive payments. Individual payment amounts cannot be determined at this time and will be based on a number of factors, including the number of Settlement Class Members who submit a valid Claim Verification Form and the amount of the Settlement Fund available for distribution. Michael Kors has also agreed to change the labeling of its price tags of certain items in its outlet stores.

How to get a payment.

To receive a payment, you must submit a Claim Verification Form online at www.MichaelKorsOutletSettlement.com or by mail. If you would like to submit the form by mail, you may request one by calling 1-866-879-7386. Your Claim Verification Form must be fully completed and submitted online or postmarked if by mail no later than 30 days after the Court grants Final Approval in order to receive a check in the mail for your share of the Settlement.

Your rights may be affected.

If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class. Your request to exclude must be postmarked no later than **December 8, 2015**. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release your Michael Kors Outlet Store pricing claims and will not be able to sue Michael Kors for any claim relating to the lawsuit. If you stay in the Settlement Class, you may object to it by **December 8, 2015**. For further information on how to exclude yourself or object to the Settlement, please visit the website, or call the phone number, listed below.

The Court will hold a hearing on **January 7, 2016**, to consider whether to approve the Settlement and a request for Service Awards of $5,000 each for the Plaintiffs and attorneys' fees of up to 30% of the Settlement Fund, along with the reimbursement of expenses. You may appear at the hearing, but you are not required to attend. You may hire your own attorney, at your own expense, to appear or speak for you at the hearing.

Do not contact Michael Kors or the Court for information.

All capitalized terms herein have the same meanings as those in the Settlement Agreement.

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AFTER HEROES REBORN

FALL TV PREVIEW

THURSDAY

THURS

(Clockwise from bottom left) Matt McGorry, Karla Souza, Alfred Enoch, Viola Davis, Jack Falahee, and Aja Naomi King photographed on Aug. 8, 2015, in Los Angeles



How to Get Away With Murder

SEPT. 24 ◢ 10 P.M. ◢ *ABC*
SEASON 2

PHOTOGRAPH BY **JAMES WHITE**

Charlie Weber and Davis



VIOLA DAVIS WAS SITTING IN HER JACUZZI WHEN SHE GOT A CALL last month affirming that her transition from an Oscar-nominated film actress to a TV star on *How to Get Away With Murder* had been a most excellent career move. "It was from my former assistant, who now works with our production company," recalls Davis. "He called about something different and at the end of the conversation said, 'Oh, by the way, congrats on your Emmy nomination!' I was like, 'Oh, okay!'"

But appearing sans makeup and wig while uttering wry, priceless gems like "Why is your penis on a dead girl's phone?" wasn't the only thing that made Davis, as the mighty Annalise Keating, so invaluable to the Shondaland legal drama about a law professor and her blindly ambitious students. "She holds the show on her shoulders. She deepens it," says creator Peter Nowalk. "We give her hard things to do and she makes it look easy."

Nowalk has no intention of lightening the load in season 2, either. Though he will reveal who killed Rebecca (Katie Findlay) in the series premiere, he plans to spin a whole new web of intrigue for Keating and her star students—Wes (Alfred Enoch), Michaela (Aja Naomi King), Asher (Matt McGorry), Laurel (Karla Souza), and Connor (Jack Falahee), who are still in their second semester of law school. "I don't want to do the same show as last year, which was 'Here's a dead body, who killed her?'" admits Nowalk. "There are not that many options, because not everybody was in the house at the time. So I wanted to answer [who killed Rebecca] and the answer really turns the story into another mystery."

> ***"KNOWING PETE AND SHONDALAND, IF THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE SHIRTLESS, I PROBABLY WILL BE."***
>
> —MATT McGORRY

Along with the return of Keating associates Bonnie Winterbottom (Liza Weil) and Frank Delfino (Charlie Weber), Billy Brown will reprise his role as Nate Lahey—the sexy detective who still carries a torch for Annalise, even though he's set to go on trial for her husband's murder. "She gave him a number to call and told him to just fire his lawyer and presumably call a new one," explains Nowalk. "That's a big part of the first two episodes—who that person is." ABC won't say who yet, other than offering a couple of casting clues: Famke Janssen (*X-Men*) will recur this fall, but it's unclear whether she'll play a lawyer or the recipient of the cryptic "Eggs 911" text Rebecca sent before she died. Kendrick Sampson (*Gracepoint*) and Matt Cohen (*90210*) are also joining the show, but Nowalk wants to keep their parts secret, too.

Speaking of keeping things under, ahem, wraps—Bonnie and Asher will carry on their affair, even though Asher worries that the visit he got last season from an assistant district attorney about Annalise could put a damper on their secret relationship. At least their occasional romps in the bedroom will offer a lovely diversion for viewers. "Knowing Pete and Shondaland, if there is an opportunity to be shirtless, I probably will be," says McGorry.

A romantic subplot involving Connor and techie hookup Oliver (Conrad Ricamora), which Nowalk initially worried viewers would find cliché, could end up offering a fresh and real perspective on living with the AIDS virus. "Our goal is to treat that in a very realistic and contemporary way," Nowalk says of Oliver, who learned at the end of the season that he was HIV-positive. "How do you live as an HIV-positive gay man with a boyfriend? We take it to places I hope that viewers don't expect coming. Especially now that Oliver is a huge security blanket in Connor's life, and a necessary balance to all the murder."

The upcoming action has Davis ready to face the new season head-on. While the show's success helped fill up her dance card over the summer—besides starring as Task Force X head Amanda Waller in the upcoming DC superhero drama *Suicide Squad*, she shot *Custody*, a small film James Lapine (*Into the Woods*) wrote and directed—Davis is thrilled to reenter the courtroom with her guns (and we mean her impressive biceps) blazing.

"The thing about a movie is, once it's over, it's done," says Davis. "The great thing about the show is that you get to get back on board again to discover more things about the character. You get a second chance to be better. It was so great to be back. I had more revelations." She pauses, thinking about what it really feels like to step into Annalise Keating's shoes once more. "I felt braver." —LYNETTE RICE

(PREVIOUS PAGE) MCGORRY'S SHIRT: JAMES CAMPBELL; PANTS: HUDSON; SHOES: ADIDAS; SOUZA'S DRESS: CLUB MONACO; SHOES: PAUL ANDREW. ENOCH'S SHIRT: TOPMAN; PANTS: CLUB MONACO; SHOES: CONVERSE. DAVIS' DRESS: OSMAN; RING: NEIL LANE. FALAHEE'S SHIRT: CLUB MONACO; PANTS: GAP; SHOES: VANS. KING'S DRESS: TOPSHOP; SHOES: ALDO; EARRINGS: DANA REBECCA; (THIS PAGE) MITCHELL HA ASETH/ABC



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Heroes Reborn

NEW DRAMA | SEPT. 24 | 8 P.M. | NBC

The cheerleader wasn't saved. In fact, Claire Bennet (Hayden Panettiere) has been dead a whole year, as viewers will quickly learn in the season premiere of *Heroes Reborn*, the 13-episode series that reboots NBC's 2006 drama that followed ordinary people who had extraordinary abilities. There will be plenty of new faces (Chuck!... er, Zachary Levi), and a few familiar ones (Masi Oka and Greg Grunberg). But the key returning player is Noah Bennet (Jack Coleman), a.k.a. HRG—the only major character from the first edition of the series without superpowers, who brings his steely demeanor and retro eyewear to play a major role wrangling a new generation of "evos."

Here, show creator Tim Kring shares script pages from the new series. The setup: After HRG's daughter, Claire, outed her powers to the world at the end of the original series, a disastrous explosion at a summit killed her and many others, an event that was blamed on the evos. HRG is now living a quiet suburban life under a new name when conspiracy theorist Quentin Frady (Henry Zebrowski) tracks him down. "This scene is the inciting incident of the series, a collision between two main characters that ignites HRG on a quest to find out what really happened that day—and to his daughter," Kring says.

—JAMES HIBBERD

REBORN EP#101 "Brave New World" WHITE 1.

28 EXT. HRG'S TRACT HOME - CONTINUOUS

HRG exits the house, walks nonchalantly down the sidewalk. The SHADOWY FIGURE emerges from behind a tree to watch him.

Meet QUENTIN FRADY (30's), unkempt, twitchy, a MESSENGER BAG over his shoulder. He starts to follow HRG, only to stumble over a GARBAGE BAG. When he looks up, HRG is nowhere to be seen. Shit. As he stands there --

HRG (O.S.)
First rule of tailing someone...



(SLAMS Quentin against a tree)
...Know how to tail someone! Who are you, what do you want?

QUENTIN
Answers. To what really happened on June 13th.

HRG
What's that got to do with me?

QUENTIN
You're Noah Bennet, right? You knew all of those people.

HRG
(squeezes hard)
Who do you work for?

QUENTIN
I worked at Renautas, but not for them.



HRG
(knows the name)
Renautas?

QUENTIN
And I know you worked for Primatech.

HRG
I sold paper.

QUENTIN
Sure, along with bagging and tagging and keeping "powers" under wraps.

HRG
And you know about this, how?!

HRG, a.k.a. the Man With Horn-Rimmed Glasses (Jack Coleman), isn't wearing his specs in his new life as a car salesman. "He no longer looks like a nefarious company man," says Kring. "He's gone very domestic, but the glasses will be reintroduced in an iconic way."

June 13 is the date of the summit explosion disaster that achieved 9/11-type infamy.

Prior to this scene, Quentin Frady's (Henry Zebrowski) evo sister was kidnapped. Quentin's search for answers has led him to HRG. "He comes off like a wing nut, except we know he's onto something."

A play on the Latin word for reborn, Renautas is a company that figures into this season in a major way.



Jack Coleman and Henry Zebrowski

COLEMAN AND ZEBROWSKI: CHRISTOS KALOHIRIDIS/NBC; COLEMAN: JEFF RIEDEL/NBC; ZEBROWSKI: JOHN MEDLAND/NBC

REBORN EP#101 "Brave New World" WHITE 2.

QUENTIN
Because Renautas secretly owned Primatech.

If HRG is aware of this, he hides it with a stern stare.

HRG
Primatech's dead. It's nothing but a hole in the ground.

QUENTIN
Unless it's not.

28

HRG's eyes narrow at this.

QUENTIN (CONT'D)
That's what I'm trying to tell you. I've found things I wasn't supposed to find.
(conspiratorially)
There's something coming. Something huge heading our way. And Renautas is at the wheel. June 13th was the beginning. I just don't know of what.

Quentin looks at HRG's face. This is all Greek to him.

QUENTIN (CONT'D)
You must know something no one else does. There must be something --

HRG
Lemme guess, you're a Truther.

QUENTIN
That has nothing to do with it -- come on man, you really think Mohinder Suresh was behind that attack?
(beat)
Hello? He's a patsy.

HRG
I saw what everyone else saw. I know what everyone else knows.

Quentin fumbles to open his messenger bag. Pulls out a MANUSCRIPT. We see the title, "Escalating Evolution".

QUENTIN
This is his manuscript, never published.
It's all in here. These Evos, these powers... he says their numbers are increasing. Escalating! But he doesn't say why! Are they here to take over, like the media, like the government keeps telling us? No.
(lowers his voice)
I think they're here to save us!

Scientist Mohinder Suresh (Sendhil Ramamurthy) has been blamed for the attack. "The show had always posited this idea there was an evolutionary reason for the people with powers; it's a hopeful idea that we continue here," says Kring.

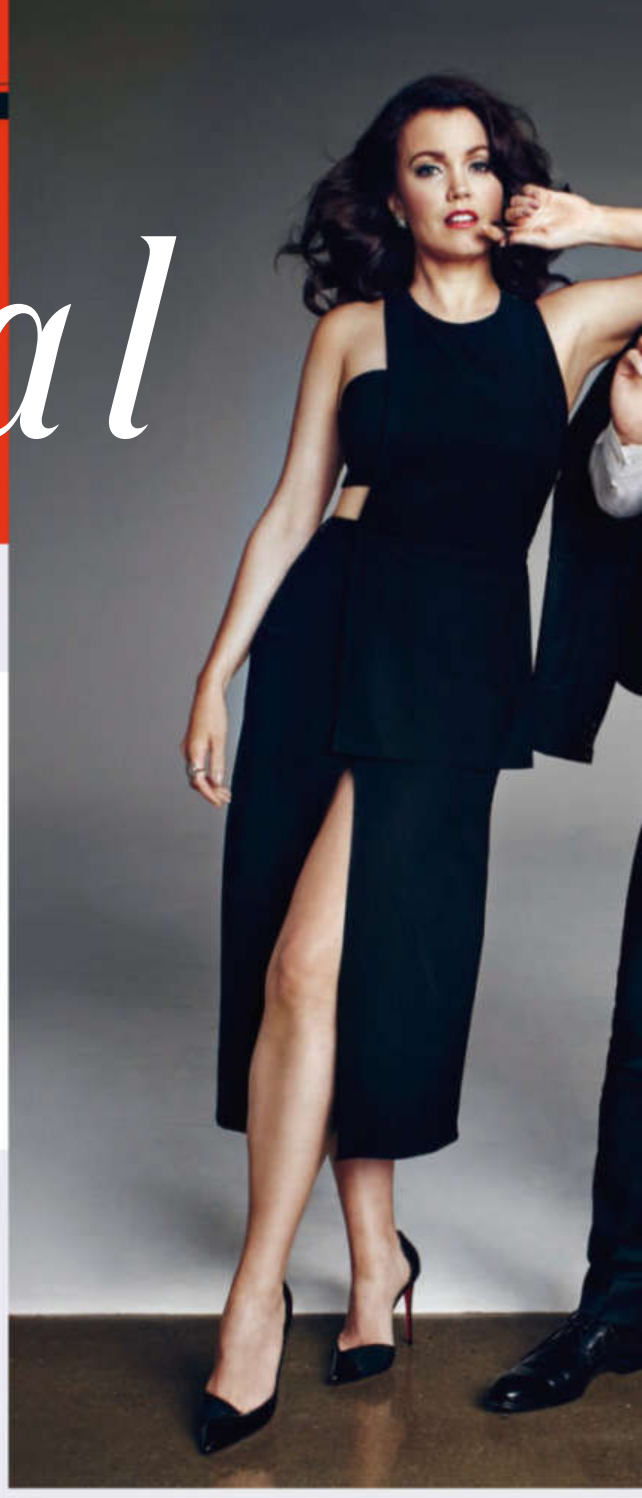
Kring throws in words, like *truther* and *patsy*, associated with U.S. conspiracy theories surrounding 9/11 and the JFK assassination. "There's a lot of specific detail to this conspiracy, so it helps the audience to ride on top of archetypical terms in other conspiracy stories."

A hint that HRG's memory has been altered. "What's great about HRG's journey is he uncovers the show's whole backstory along the way, so you don't need to have watched [the original series]. In many ways, his character is the spine of the story."

The show's new term for people with powers. "You don't need to label something if the public isn't aware of it," says Kring. "It's only after Claire brought them out of the closet that there became this need to stratify."

Scandal

SEASON 5 | SEPT. 24 | 9 P.M. | *ABC*



FITZ WANTS TO KEEP HIS HAND ON OLIVIA POPE'S THIGH. SHE IS barefoot, laughing, cuddled close to him on the couch in the Oval Office—a rare moment of quiet for both the country's best crisis fixer and its Commander-in-Chief. Suddenly the door bursts open, the new chief of staff springs in, and the president's hand quickly...stays exactly where it is. The director approaches Tony Goldwyn to suggest that in the next take he should swiftly pull his hand away from Kerry Washington's leg when their intimacy is intruded upon. But when the cameras roll, Goldwyn's hand doesn't budge. "He's not ashamed," Goldwyn explains to the director. "I really believe he's done with that. This is his reality. It's the truth." The hand stays. It is so ordered.

But it's relief, not tension, being felt on this summer day on the set of *Scandal*, which enters its fifth season with the blazing assertion that political fixer Olivia Pope and lame-duck president Fitzgerald Grant are finally together. No, *seriously*. After four tumultuous years of kidnappings, stolen elections, covert agencies, and home-size pours of merlot, the star-crossed lovers of D.C. are going legit.

"I found myself inspired by the idea of what would really happen if we let everything change for real," says series creator Shonda Rhimes, who has said that the show's troubled couple couldn't ever truly be together. "Now we're in season 5 and I'm thinking, Why not?" laughs Rhimes. "I think Olivia has come around. A lot of last season was about healing all of her damage and getting her to a place where she can see the two of them together.... When we last saw her, she was standing on the balcony, and Fitz says to her, 'What happens now?' and she says, 'Whatever we want.' It's a big 'whatever we want.'"

The creative latitude also applies to Washington and Goldwyn, both of whom are eager to charge forward into uncharted waters after years of false starts. "I'm excited to see what happens when Olivia has to practice what she preaches," says Washington. "She's always said to clients, 'You have to tell the truth,' but this relationship was always an exception to the rule, which meant there was always a disconnect in what she believed and how she behaved." Goldwyn adds, "Last year was so frustrating as an actor because we were apart the entire season, so this is very refreshing for us to be mutually together." He pauses. "For the moment, anyway."

> ***"I'M EXCITED TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN OLIVIA HAS TO PRACTICE WHAT SHE PREACHES."***
>
> —KERRY WASHINGTON

Oh, sorry, did you expect smooth sailing from here on out? Spoiler alert: This is *Scandal*! Sailboats aren't built here without a few bodies going overboard. Gladiators Huck (Guillermo Diaz) and Quinn (Katie Lowes) enter this season in a state of emotional shambles, while the earliest casualties of Fitz and Olivia's love



Bellamy Young, Tony Goldwyn, and Kerry Washington photographed on Aug. 8, 2015, in Los Angeles

affair already include the pride of First Lady Mellie (Bellamy Young) and the livelihood of ex–chief of staff Cyrus (Jeff Perry). Both have a bone to pick with Fitz after being unceremoniously ejected from the White House, paving the way for a possible alignment.

"Our first episode back is a real kick in the teeth because I think it's the first time Mellie figures out that she's really alone," says Young. "She's burnt so many bridges for Fitz and this administration—and it's similar with Cyrus—so for them to be banished from the White House makes them realize they're like turtles without shells. They have nothing because they've sold their souls to stay where they are. She realizes she has to build something for herself."

Fortunately, Mellie has an outlet for all that newfound time and freedom: Now that she's a newly elected senator, her presidential run will amp up. "Mellie was always supposed to be a character you felt could have been president herself and had been stagnated," Rhimes says. But don't make the comparisons to Hillary Clinton just yet. In *Scandal*'s universe, there are still two years until the election, meaning it's unlikely that midseason will see Mellie in the Oval Office—or Fitz out of it. "That's not the intention, although I reserve the right to change my mind at any time," teases Rhimes, adding that the writers have been debating whether the show will reflect the massive field of contenders for the 2016 Republican ticket.

More real-world hot topics may yet find their way into *Scandal*'s imaginative, chaotic, boundary-pushing version of America. Rhimes confirms there are "plenty" of recent headlines she wants to explore, and she isn't ruling out a follow-up to last season's critically acclaimed episode "The Lawn Chair," which held up a mirror to police brutality toward black men. Airing in March amid the unrest in Ferguson, Mo., it was the series' most provocative—and important—episode to date. "We did that because I wanted hope and I wanted to be inspirational and optimistic about the concept of what could be possible," says Rhimes. "The fact that the real world has not caught up with that concept is heartbreaking." She continues, "Maybe we'll come up with another episode. I like that we can influence. I like that we are part of the conversation."

It's the strange power of *Scandal*. It can simultaneously dish out painful truths that hit close to home while delivering outrageous plot twists unimaginable even in a Capitol Hill fever dream. Perhaps that's why, despite being snubbed by the Emmys this year, the series rates as one of the most discussed shows on social media (it averaged 291,000 tweets per episode last season).

"It just astounds me that in season 5, our writers can still do it," says Washington. "[The way] the first episode this season ends is so shocking, and I was like, 'Ohhh, it's gonna be *that* kind of season!'" Gladiators are ready and waiting. —MARC SNETIKER

PHOTOGRAPH BY **JAMES WHITE**

THURSDAY

NEW + RETURNING

Bones

SEASON 11 | 8 P.M. | *FOX*

When we last saw forensic anthropologist Brennan (Emily Deschanel) and her FBI-agent husband, Booth (David Boreanaz), they were saying goodbye to their jobs and friends to make a fresh start—possibly for good. The episode was intended to double as a series finale, since the show's renewal came down to the wire. Now new coshowrunner Michael Peterson has to figure out how to bring Booth and Brennan back. "The theme that we're exploring is you can't escape fate," says Peterson. Season 11 picks up six months later when a major murder will lure the couple back to the fold. Says Deschanel, "As much as the death and violence and murder can get to somebody, it really seems like this is kind of their purpose in life." And there's more than existential crisis in store. A two-part crossover between the realistic *Bones* and otherworldly *Sleepy Hollow* will air Oct. 29. "Our hour will definitely be explained by science, and theirs will take that much more fantastical point of view," Peterson says, adding that both will center on the undead. Brennan, time to suspend your disbelief. **OCT. 1**

Mom

SEASON 3 | 9 P.M. | *CBS*

Though Bonnie (Allison Janney) went on a bender last season, she's back on the wagon now, to the delight of daughter Christy (Anna Faris). And there's no better way to celebrate her newfound sobriety than by hunting for a little hanky-panky! "There will be dating stories this season, and Christy and Bonnie are both going to make some not-so-great choices," teases co-creator Gemma Baker. Christy's AA meetings are about to get a whole lot more interesting: Jill (Jaime Pressly) and Wendy (Beth Hall) have become series regulars, while Octavia Spencer is back as Regina, who's expected to make a "life-altering choice that will affect the group," says Baker. And we saved the best for last: Oscar winner Ellen Burstyn will be guest-starring as Bonnie's mommy dearest. **NOV. 5**

HOW TO...

CONTINUE A SHOW AFTER THE STAR LEAVES

The Vampire Diaries

SEASON 7 | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*



Jaiden Kaine and Paul Wesley; (inset) Nina Dobrev

For six bloody seasons, *The Vampire Diaries* revolved around Elena Gilbert (Nina Dobrev) and her love triangle with the Salvatore brothers (Ian Somerhalder and Paul Wesley). But when Dobrev decided to move out of Mystic Falls, showrunner Julie Plec had to figure out what the show would look like without its heroine. "I always look back at *Game of Thrones*," Plec says. "After the Red Wedding, I was like, 'How could there be a show without the Starks?' And then by season 4 I was just as invested in other characters, so there's a way there that if you can tell good stories, people can survive the loss of their favorite." For *The Vampire Diaries*, that means reinvesting in the Salvatore brothers' relationship and not changing much else. "[Season 7] feels decidedly comfortable," Plec says. Aside from introducing a flash-forward element, Plec and her team decided not to go "format bananas" but rather to stick with what works. "It's the show that I've loved for six years continuing to be the show that I've loved for six years," she says. Minus a few doppelgängers, of course. OCT. 8



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THE VAMPIRE DIARIES: BOB MAHONEY/THE CW; DOBREV.: FRANK OCKENFELS 3/THE CW; POMPEO'S DRESS: CALVIN KLEIN COLLECTION; EARRINGS: L FRANK KAINE

Ellen Pompeo photographed on Aug. 7, 2015, in Los Angeles



Grey's Anatomy

SEASON 12
SEPT. 24
8 P.M. | *ABC*

For a show that's seen a lot of death and heartbreak, last season was still the darkest of *Grey's Anatomy*'s 10-year run, culminating in the car crash that killed Dr. Derek Shepherd (Patrick Dempsey), leaving leading lady Dr. Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) both a widow and a single mother to their three kids. So how do you come back from such a sad state? According to Pompeo, you just have to replace all the darkness with something a little, well, more joyful. "Everyone can agree last year was pretty dark tonally," she says. "The challenge is to make every year fresh and new and keep the audience engaged. So this year, we're going to turn over the soil. We're going back more to the original *Grey's* and having a bit of a lighter tone." But considering Meredith is still mourning the love of her life, she's going to need to tap into all her strength. "Derek has always been an important person to Meredith, but he never defined her," Pompeo says. "Cristina Yang [Sandra Oh] said it perfectly, that Meredith is the sun, and I think this is going to be the year that she is going to realize that. I'm incredibly proud to be a part of a show playing such a strong female character. And I trust Shonda's [Rhimes] vision. I can't wait to see what she has in store for her new journey." Of course, one thing fans can't help but wonder is if Meredith's new journey will include a new romance. The answer: Maybe! "It's a one-hour drama—you never know," Pompeo teases. "We're going to start seeing Meredith begin exploring the question of 'Once you've had a perfect love and a perfect marriage, what do you do next?' But a part of her is definitely going to wonder if the best parts of her love life are already behind her." Pompeo will admit that she can't believe *Grey's* still has so many viewers tuning in each week. "I've been saying we only have one more year since season 2," she says. "I really could never imagine the show going on this long. It's unbelievable." —NATALIE ABRAMS

PHOTOGRAPH BY **JAMES WHITE**


JAMES SPADER
THE BLACKLIST
IT'S GOOD TO BE WANTED.
SEASON PREMIERE THURSDAY OCT 1 • 9/8c NBC
FOLLOWED BY THE PLAYER

Q+A

Wesley Snipes

OF **The Player**

NEW DRAMA | 10 P.M. | NBC

WESLEY SNIPES IS BACK AND MORE OF A BETTOR THAN EVER. THE 53-YEAR-OLD ACTOR—WHO WAS A '90S ACTION SUPERSTAR, NOT TO MENTION A SWORD-SWINGING HALF-VAMPIRE—IS SHIFTING HIS CHIPS TO THE SMALL SCREEN WITH NBC'S DRAMA *THE PLAYER*, SET IN A HIGH-STAKES, HIGH-CONCEPT WORLD WHERE PEOPLE WAGER ON LARGE-SCALE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. —KEITH STASKIEWICZ



Photographed on July 9, 2015, in San Diego

You made your name in movies. Has it been a different experience for you on a TV series?
It's a faster process, it's a shorter process. I have a newfound appreciation and respect for that skill set, because it's certainly hard. It's not for everybody.

Had you been offered TV roles before?
I was offered a couple of series over the last few years, and I even did a series [ABC's *H.E.L.P.*] back in 1990, which was a hybrid cop/emergency-medical-services show.

On *The Player*, you're the pit boss for a clandestine organization that bets on confrontations between criminals and Philip Winchester's Player. Tell us about your role.
Mr. Johnson is a pretty compassionate, contained man on the surface, but he straddles the fence. You're not sure if he's a good guy or a bad guy. His responsibility is to make sure that the game is played fairly and that nothing ever comes back to the house.

Do you see this role as a return of sorts for your career, or are you of the LL Cool J mindset regarding comebacks?
I'd say it's a continuation of the plan. I don't know when my ticket's going to be punched, so there's plenty that I can do today and should do today. Hopefully this will lead to more things.

You brought the show to Comic-Con this year. *Blade* helped kick off this generation of comic-book movies years ago. Is it interesting to see how far the genre has developed?
I love it, I'm cool with it. I'm a big fan of the genre. I haven't had a chance to work with this iteration of Marvel yet, but those conversations are ongoing. We're talking about not just the *Blade* possibility but other things as well.

There seems to be plenty of adrenaline pumping through *The Player*. Can we expect you to get in on the action?
There's no other reason to do it! If I can't get in there and do some action, what's the point? But also, I have a lot to do as an actor. Mr. Johnson has the need in this position to adopt disguises and use accents. But we're not talking *Orphan Black* here, just so you know. At least as far as I know.



The Player

They'd have to give you a second paycheck for that.
It's like I always say: If it don't make dollars, it don't make sense!

SEPT. 24

THE PLAYER: COLLEEN HAYES/NBC

SNIPES PHOTOGRAPH BY **MICHAEL MULLER**



Nicole Beharie and Tom Mison

SLEEPY HOLLOW

SEASON 3 | 9 P.M. | *FOX*

After two seasons of witches, wendigos, and, of course, a headless horseman, Abbie Mills (Nicole Beharie) and Ichabod Crane (Tom Mison) are only just entering the second of the seven tribulations they must face as Witnesses. The good news? A trio of new series regulars will be on hand to help them: Lance Gross (*House of Payne*) joins the cast as Abbie's FBI boss; Nikki Reed (the *Twilight* saga) is appearing as Betsy Ross; and Zach Appelman is returning full-time as fan favorite/former wendigo Joe Corbin. But even with all these fresh faces, the heart of the series will still be the relationship between Abbie and Ichabod. "That's where this show lives," new EP Clifton Campbell says. Other changes this season? "We're not going to be as mythology-laden as the show has been in the past," he says. "The fun is definitely back." **OCT. 1**

The Originals

SEASON 3 | 9 P.M. | *THE CW*

The Original family might have gotten rid of their murderous parents last year, but this season the tables are turned. With the arrival of the Trinity—made up of the first vampires sired by Klaus (Joseph Morgan), Elijah (Daniel Gillies), and Rebekah (Claire Holt)—the Original siblings now find themselves in the elder position. "One of the stories that we're telling is that first 10 years of being a vampire after [the Originals] fled their raging father and their mother, and how they became the cultured, posh, fascinating people that they are today," showrunner Julie Plec says. "And that's how we introduce the Trinity: through the flashback story line." But the Trinity (played by Rebecca Breeds, Oliver Ackland, and Andrew Lees) is also coming to present-day New Orleans, and much like their parents, they're good at plotting. After all, as the rule goes, you take out one Original and you take out an entire sire line, right? Now *that* sounds like the makings of a war. **OCT. 8**

Nathan for You

SEASON 3 | 10 P.M.
COMEDY CENTRAL

Between opening a "Dumb Starbucks" store and posting a fake "Pig Rescues Baby Goat" video that went viral, faux business expert Nathan Fielder has gotten people to believe all sorts of silly things. And now the comedian intends to up the stakes. "The stuff we do this year is a lot more ambitious," explains Fielder. There will be more full-episode stories, including one that took six months to shoot. "It's one of the biggest projects we've ever undertaken," he teases. "There were so many elements that had to take place over such a long period of time." But that doesn't mean Fielder will abandon his original mission of helping small businesses: A moving company, a dive bar, and a horse ranch are among his clients

The Blacklist

SEASON 3 | 9 P.M. | *NBC*

The new season will start right where the last one left off—meaning Elizabeth Keen (Megan Boone) and Raymond Reddington (James Spader) are still on the run from, well, *everyone*. "What I'm discovering is that while it's really entertaining and Red is still this very colorful character, we're not taking this [situation] very lightly," Boone says. "The first step is just to get out alive."

That might be harder than it sounds: Liz is hiding from the FBI, the Cabal, and her own task force after she killed the U.S. attorney general in the finale—and Red is helping her. "The tone of the show is more urgent," exec producer Jon Bokenkamp says. "This is a manhunt. The stakes are bigger." And bigger stakes mean bigger changes—including Liz's appearance. "She looks a lot more like her mother," Boone says of her character's transformation, which includes a new blond 'do. "She's transforming into a woman that was a mystery to her before."

Liz's makeover will go beyond looks. "She had a very idealistic world with a husband and a job, and everything was great," says exec producer John Eisendrath. "And the direction she's been pulled is a rather dark path. She's been drawn into Reddington's world, and I think she's seeing similarities in herself to him that she may not want to recognize."

Her task force is also being drawn into Red's world—but only because they're on a complicated hunt for their old colleague. "They all love one another, but the duty of the task force is to find the fugitive," Boone says, "and this terrorist: Elizabeth Keen." **OCT. 1**

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Megan Boone and James Spader

SLEEPY HOLLOW: TINA ROWDEN/FOX; *THE BLACKLIST*: DAVID GIESBRECHT/NBC; *ELEMENTARY*: JEFF NEIRA/CBS

THURSDAY **WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** NATALIE ABRAMS, ARIANA BACLE, ISABELLA BIEDENHARN, DEVAN COGGAN, SAMANTHA HIGHFILL, RAY RAHMAN, LYNETTE RICE, AND C. MOLLY SMITH



Lucy Liu and Jonny Lee Miller

ELEMENTARY

SEASON 4 | 10 P.M. | *CBS*

In the wake of Sherlock (Jonny Lee Miller) falling off the wagon, his father, Morland (John Noble), is finally coming to town—but it's not a joyful reunion. "Sherlock mistrusts the man and dislikes everything that he stands for," Miller says. We'll soon find that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, as Morland is an international consultant who works with various governments and corporations. "His dad is someone who tends to work from the shadows," says EP Rob Doherty. Sherlock will also have to deal with being sidelined by the NYPD after beating a man last season. "He's trying to make sure it doesn't affect Watson [Lucy Liu] adversely," says Miller, so he explores other options while he awaits the department's decision—though according to Miller, he has no regrets: "I think he enjoyed it, to be honest with you." **NOV. 5**

this year. And as ever, his most important client is himself. "In one episode," says Fielder, "I actually prove to the audience scientifically that I'm a fun person." **OCT. 15**

Fashionably Late With Rachel Zoe

NEW TALK SHOW | 10:30 P.M. | *LIFETIME*

If you've been going bananas without Rachel Zoe on your screen, fear not: The celebrity stylist (and catchphrase factory) is returning to TV with a new late-night talk show. "[My husband] Rodger [Berman] would constantly say, 'Rachel, you're the most comfortable when you're just sitting in a seat talking to someone,'" Zoe says of her departure from reality TV. On *Fashionably Late*—which will shoot in the penthouse of Zoe's Los Angeles office building—she'll chat about the week's best style and pop culture events with *Vanity Fair*'s Derek Blasberg, Berman, and different guests, like actress Jessica Alba. Though celebrities need not be couture-forward to apply. Says Zoe, "It doesn't have to be someone that cares much about fashion, because sometimes that's even funnier." She also promises fun games such as "Trend or Tragic" and her spin on the classic "Would You Rather?" ("Would you rather be stuck in an elevator with Tom Ford or spill red wine all over Karl Lagerfeld?"). But most important, what about the clothes? "Everyone's going to be wearing something great." **SEPT. 24**

LYNCH PHOTOGRAPH BY **CHRISTOPHER BEYER**

Q+A

Jane Lynch

OF **Angel From Hell**

NEW COMEDY | 9:30 P.M. | *CBS*

THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF ANGELS ON TELEVISION, BUT NONE QUITE LIKE JANE LYNCH'S AMY ON THIS NEW COMEDY FROM TAD QUILL (*SCRUBS*). SHE DRINKS. SHE FLIRTS. BUT SHE ALSO CARES IMMENSELY FOR ALLISON (MAGGIE LAWSON), A DOCTOR SHE'S BEEN ASSIGNED TO WATCH OVER SINCE ALLISON WAS A CHILD. *EW* CHATTED WITH LYNCH ABOUT GETTING ANGELIC IN HER FIRST POST-*GLEE* ROLE. —TIM STACK

What's Amy like? Is she really an angel who drinks and swears?
She is an angel. She has terrific intentions, but she has her issues, too. She intimates that this is her last chance to get it right before she maybe gets kicked out of the angel realm. She's extremely compassionate, but she's kind of a mess. She still loves to drink. She's a fan of crème de menthe. She never changes her clothes. She gets her facts wrong sometimes. But she really loves Allison. She's such a fierce advocate for Allison that perhaps she sacrifices other people [in the process].

You mentioned her wardrobe. Who came up with the idea that she wouldn't change clothes?
I didn't want the audience to be occupying themselves with questions like "Where does she get her clothes? Why is she always in a different outfit?" I'm going to be in the same thing. The T-shirt changes and that's it.

It's kinda like Sue Sylvester, in the sense that you have a uniform each episode.
I'm sure there was something subconscious about it, like, "Let's make her wear the same thing every day!"

Will we see heaven on *Hell*?
I don't know. One of the things that Tad and I came together on is betting that she lives in one of those community homes. I bet she's one of those people who sits on the porch smoking cigarettes with the other guys and then walks over to the AA meeting for free cookies. **NOV. 5**



FALL TV PREVIEW

FRIDAY

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Clive Owen



The Knick

OCT. 16 ◢ 10 P.M. ◢ *CINEMAX*
SEASON 2

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT TV HAD NOWHERE LEFT TO GO WITH ALL OF THE MODERN ANTIHERO DRAMA, *THE KNICK* BROUGHT ITS PROTAGONIST TO 1900 NEW YORK CITY, CREATING A PROVOCATIVE PERIOD PIECE WITH TIMELY RESONANCE. WITH STEVEN SODERBERGH BEHIND THE LENS, *THE KNICK* STARS CLIVE OWEN AS DR. JOHN THACKERY, A SURGEON WORKING OUT OF FAMED HOSPITAL THE KNICKERBOCKER, WHO IS ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF BOTH SCIENCE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE. THIS SEASON WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLORE A SOCIETY IN THE GRIP OF TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION YET TRYING TO RESIST NECESSARY SOCIAL CHANGE. (SOUND FAMILIAR?) A SPOILER-PHOBIC OWEN WAS RELUCTANT TO CONFIRM DETAILS. BUT WE TALKED WITH HIM ANYWAY, JUST BECAUSE CLIVE OWEN IS AWESOME. —JEFF JENSEN

Season 1 concluded with Thackery seeking help for his cocaine addiction, but the treatment plan was heroin. How is that going to help him get better?
I wouldn't be totally sure he is going to get much better! This show is so well researched. Heroin was, in fact, used as a remedy for cocaine frenzy. They thought it was a wonder drug. We pick up with him in rehab, full of the wonder cure. You can imagine what that might look like. In general, season 2 opens up the world. We travel much more out of the hospital with all the characters.

TV has made great drama in recent years out of complicated people spiraling downward. Can a story about getting better be just as compelling?
I think it can. Seeing somebody struggle with weakness is very human and fascinating to watch. If somebody's totally in control, that's less interesting and not realistic. The writers did a great job, not just with Thackery but with all the characters. It's never cliché, never obvious. Often with period drama, there's a kind of nostalgia about it. One thing that Steven said at the beginning was "I don't want anyone to be nostalgic about this time in New York."

Thackery went from treating African-American doctor Algernon Edwards (André Holland) with hostility to hospitality by season's end. How do you make sense of his change of heart?
In terms of tackling race issues, it was important that we treated it properly and do it respectfully. We're trying to show what life might have been like for certain characters in 1900. We can't put our modern sensibilities on it. I heard a lot of people saying, "How could you even say those lines to him?" But that was the way people were at that time, and it's important to represent that. Otherwise you're being dishonest. But apart from the racism of that time, Thackery knows that if Edwards is ever going to achieve anything, he's going to have to be very, very thick-skinned. But Thackery gives everybody a hard time. And once he sees how talented [Edwards] is and how good he is, he became more open to him.

Do you find playing a character as damaged and flawed as Thackery difficult?
It's both a blessing and hard work, especially since we didn't shoot the show episodically. We did the whole thing as a 10-hour movie. I had to have a big graph on the wall that was just the drug intake alone. *In this scene he's just taken drugs, in this scene he needs drugs,* etc. Whatever was going on dramatically, there was always this other layer of the drugs. Nothing comes easy to that character, so the acting doesn't come easy either.

Have you been as rigorous in filming season 2?
For sure. But we have a huge advantage of having a season of experience together. It felt like we hit the ground running. We felt we created a really fascinating, incredible version of 1900 in season 1. Now it's, how far can we push it? Where can we take it?

FRIDAY

NEW + RETURNING



Rachel Skarsten and Megan Follows

The Amazing Race

SEASON 27 | 8 P.M. | *CBS*

This may be the show's 27th race, but host Phil Keoghan somehow still channels the same enthusiasm he's had for it since day one. "This start was my favorite ever," he says of the season's kickoff, which took place on crowded Venice Beach in L.A. "There's so much energy to feed off." He also says the show's impressive longevity is mostly due to the energetic—and eclectic—contestants. "We have the most diverse reality cast on TV, just because they're a group of people that really have absolutely nothing in common," Keoghan says. "They don't all dance or they don't all sing or they don't all design or they don't all build. They're not all there to find a husband or a wife. Our cast is almost the antithesis of most other reality casts." So no VIP cocktail waitresses? **SEPT. 25**

Last Man Standing

SEASON 5 | 8 P.M. | *ABC*

The Tim Allen-helmed family sitcom returns with a mini time jump: Oldest daughter Kristin (Amanda Fuller) has gotten married, middle child Mandy (Molly Ephraim) is back from New York, and Mike (Tim Allen) has just returned from a globe-trotting trip shooting photos. And youngest daughter Eve (Kaitlyn Dever) will start to question her identity after her life's plans fall off track. "Is she being that conservative, gun-toting zealot because she's attached to [Allen's character] Mike Baxter? Or is that who she really is?" teases showrunner Matt Berry. *Home Improvement* fans, take note: Jonathan Taylor Thomas will be back to direct an episode. "I love him on the show," Allen says. "It's cute because he's so shy. Like he's never done this before." **SEPT. 25**

MasterChef Junior

SEASON 4 | 8 P.M. | *FOX*

The tiny-tot *MasterChef* spin-off will serve up supersize portions in its fourth season. There are more episodes (12) and starting-line contestants (24), and pastry whiz Christina Tosi joins Gordon Ramsay and Graham Elliot as a judge. With kids from Texas, Tennessee, New York, and more, "this season is the most representative of all of America that we've ever been," says exec producer Robin Ashbrook. The show will continue to find fun in taking the piss out of tough-love Ramsay, from showering him with cake frosting to staging a piñata bash with a big Ramsay head. Says Ashbrook, "I advise people to tune in just to see Gordon dressed as a hippie." He wouldn't elaborate, but we hope the costume is part of a very special brownie-baking episode... **NOV. 6**

REIGN

SEASON 3 | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*

Reign is heading abroad. "Mary's life is still set in France, but we will be cutting away to Elizabethan court," showrunner Laurie McCarthy says of the drama that follows the life and loves of Mary, Queen of Scots (Adelaide Kane), and now her rival Queen Elizabeth (Rachel Skarsten). "I was excited to play the more intimate stories for Elizabeth. She's a few years older than Mary, which allows for some sexually charged court intrigue." Fans shouldn't expect Liz to be a straight villain. Says Skarsten, "[She's] publicly powerful, but it's still early in her rule, so she's incredibly insecure." **OCT. 9**

HOW TO...

PUT ON A LIVE SHOW—EVERY WEEK

Undateable

SEASON 3 | 8 P.M. | *NBC*



Chris D'Elia (far left) with the cast

When the scripted comedy, based on a gang of guys who have (for various reasons) been deemed "undateable," experimented with a live episode in May, the results were chaotic fun. "We shot two live hours," says star Brent Morin. "[Guest star] Ed Sheeran got me so drunk for the West Coast feed we forgot there was a time constraint." He'll have to remember next time—for its third season, every episode will be performed live for the East Coast. With a cast full of stand-up comedians (Chris D'Elia, Ron Funches, and Rick Glassman), expect a lot of riffing and taunting one another into breaking. But no cursing: "It costs $7 million a swearword," Morin says. "I can bankrupt the show in a night if I lose it." OCT. 9

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Follow @*chrisdelia* for amazing Vines and general hilarity

Truth Be Told

NEW COMEDY | 8:30 P.M. | *NBC*

Ask EP Will Packer (*Straight Outta Compton*) about his new series, and he'll give it to you straight. "It's a hell of a way to spend Friday night," he says, noting that the show, which follows two couples (Mark-Paul Gosselaar and Vanessa Lachey, along with Tone Bell and Bresha Webb) and their frank discussions about life, isn't afraid to *go there*. "We're pushing the envelope, tackling race and sex and politics and all those fun taboo things," Packer says. "That's what makes it real and organic and authentic." The comedy, loosely based on creator DJ Nash's real life, also took inspiration from another honest comedy: *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. "*Curb* came up when we talked about the kind of energy and authenticness we like in other shows," Packer says. "We're making a show about the way real people talk and think and interact." **OCT. 16**

(PREVIOUS SPREAD) DAN WINTERS/CINEMAX; (THIS PAGE) *REIGN*: SVEN FRENZEL/THE CW; *UNDATEABLE*: TYLER GOLDEN/NBC

WHY YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

Please Like Me

SEASON 3 | 10 P.M. | *PIVOT*



Josh Thomas and Keegan Joyce

WHAT DOES *EW* NEED TO DO TO PERSUADE YOU TO CHECK OUT THIS UNDERAPPRECIATED AUSTRALIAN COMEDY? WE'VE ALREADY LISTED IT AS ONE OF OUR BEST SHOWS OF THE YEAR—TWICE. PERHAPS WE SHOULD MENTION THAT JOSH THOMAS HAS EARNED WELL-DESERVED COMPARISONS TO LOUIS C.K. AND LENA DUNHAM FOR HIS DARKLY COMIC, SEMIAUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SERIES, WHICH FOLLOWS A WRY MAN NAMED JOSH (PLAYED BY THOMAS) AS HE GETS DUMPED BY HIS GIRLFRIEND, REALIZES HE'S GAY, AND FINDS OUT THAT HIS MOTHER TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE—ALL ON THE SAME DAY. BELOW, OTHER REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD (PLEASE) WATCH. —MELISSA MAERZ

1 IT'S NOT AFRAID TO BE ROMANTIC

Josh has had a rough time with dating, but when season 3 starts we'll get to see him fall in love with his new boyfriend, Arnold (Keegan Joyce). Thomas describes the first episode as "a little romantic comedy," complete with grand gestures and unironic use of a gushy Sixpence None the Richer song.

2 THERE'S A STANDOUT PERFORMANCE BY... A CHICKEN

Inspired by Thomas' real-life attempt to start an "open farming experiment" in his backyard, Josh and his best friend, Tom (Thomas Ward), will adopt a chicken, which joins Thomas' real-life dog, John. "John's great this season," Thomas swears. "He's really hitting his stride as a dog actor."

3 THE SHOW MAKES YOU LAUGH, EVEN WHEN IT GOES DARK

Episode 2 gets heavier, as Josh's friend Hannah (Hannah Gadsby), a patient at his mother's psychiatric hospital, struggles with self-harm. Somehow, though, Thomas can make even the saddest scenes funny. "I get in trouble a lot because someone's dad will die, and then I'll make a joke," he tells EW. "My friends laugh about it. But what does Dumbledore say? 'Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, when one only remembers to turn on the light.'" OCT. 16

BEN TIMONY

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Q+A

Ken Jeong
OF **Dr. Ken**

NEW COMEDY | 8:30 P.M. | *ABC*

COMMUNITY VET AND LICENSED DOCTOR KEN JEONG BRINGS HIS STETHOSCOPE TO THIS ABC WORKPLACE/FAMILY COMEDY ON WHICH HE PLAYS A PHYSICIAN AND FATHER, NEITHER OF WHOM HAS A VERY GOOD FILTER. HERE, HE ANSWERS THREE BURNING (AND ITCHING) QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE TO GO FROM BEING A REAL-LIFE DOCTOR TO PLAYING ONE ON TV. —DAN SNIERSON

What is one cliché family-comedy story line you pledge never to do?
One thing I definitely don't want to do is be like, "How was work, honey?" "Oh, gosh, it's really tough being an Asian general practitioner in the Valley. How do I fight disease *and* tropes?" You just gotta keep it real for the sake of keeping it real, because that's the only way you can sustain a show.

How did your career in medicine prepare you to be an actor?
I would venture to say that there is nothing I've learned in my medical career that could actually help me out as an actor. When people say, "Laughter is the best medicine"—no, medicine is the best medicine. Laughter doesn't hurt. But I'd still give an antibiotic rather than a guffaw any day.

What will surprise viewers—who know you from *The Hangover* and *Community*—about your performance on *Dr. Ken*?
Just by design of the show, my character is a bit more likable. He's not an international criminal. You don't have the pure lunacy of Señor Chang. People will be surprised at how grounded the character is. I'm not jumping into any exam rooms naked. Yet. We still haven't written any sweeps episodes. **OCT. 2**





Ashton Kutcher and Kevin O'Leary

Grimm

SEASON 5 | 9 P.M. | *NBC*

When viewers last saw homicide detective Nick (David Giuntoli), it was, certainly, grim. "His mom's head in a box and his dead girlfriend in his arms," says Giuntoli. "And the first 30 seconds of season 5 make his life even worse." Bad news for Nick; good news for fans. "This season is something of a reboot," says Giuntoli. "We're gonna kiss my house goodbye and get into new monsters, new relationships, and new locations." Among the places *Grimm* will go: Scotland. "We're taking on the Loch Ness Monster," says Giuntoli. "We're not just dealing with fairy tales but also myths now. If you're not going to sue us for stealing a story, we're going to take it." **OCT. 30**

Hawaii Five-0

SEASON 6 | 9 P.M. | *CBS*

"Every year we try to hit a theme," says EP Peter Lenkov. "This year the theme is love—aloha—and we're going to get into everyone's [romantic] life a little bit." That means following the honeymoon period of Kono (Grace Park) and Adam (Ian Anthony Dale) and the on-again-off-again relationship between McGarrett (Alex O'Loughlin) and Catherine (Michelle Borth), which Lenkov says will take an "unexpected" turn. Keep an eye out for big guests (Jerry Rice and Carol Burnett) and the burgeoning "little empire" of Kamekona (Taylor Wily). **SEPT. 25**

World's Funniest

SEASON 2 | 9 P.M. | *FOX*

The (other) show based on hilarious video clips, hosted by Terry Crews, premiered last January as *World's Funniest Fails*, but it's returning this fall with a new name. "There are so many other things that are just as funny and really weren't considered fails," explains Crews. Look for panel appearances by comedy heavyweights like Margaret Cho and Natasha Leggero. "*World's Funniest* is like a big, giant party," promises Crews. **NOV. 6**

SHARK TANK

SEASON 7 | 9 P.M. | *ABC*

You'd think after six seasons, the Sharks would learn to play nice in the tank. Nope! "It's the same," says Robert Herjavec. "Mark is still pushy, Kevin's still miserable, Lori's still trying to find a zero or a hero." Season 7 promises larger-scale deals and big-name guest Sharks, like actor/mogul Ashton Kutcher and Uber investor Chris Sacca. And if Shark Daymond John had it his way, he'd add another heavy hitter to the mix. "Whether it's ego or real money at play," the FUBU founder says, "I would love to take up the gloves and go hand to hand with Richard Branson." **SEPT. 25**

Blue Bloods

SEASON 6 | 10 P.M. | *CBS*

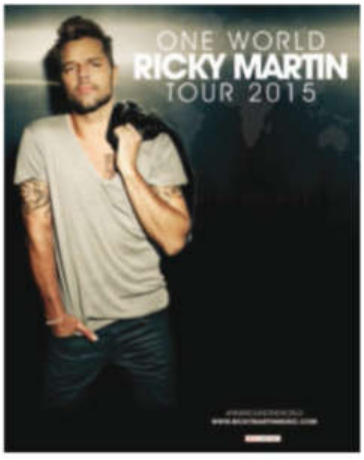
The procedural drama centering on the Reagan family of police officers will deliver more ripped-from-the-headlines stories. "We just keep reading newspapers," says showrunner Kevin Wade. "Or we hear stories from contacts at the NYPD and then turn them into [story lines]." In one episode, a writer from an upstart media outlet (*Vice*, perhaps?) is assigned to cover the police and gets tangled up in an attempted-murder case; in another, the police and fire departments "go to war," says Wade. Well, it does have "blood" in the title. **SEPT. 25**

FRIDAY **WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** KYLE ANDERSON, ISABELLA BIEDENHARN, ERIC RENNER BROWN, DEVAN COGGAN, DANA ROSE FALCONE, SAMANTHA HIGHFILL, JEFF JENSEN, JOE MCGOVERN, AND WILL ROBINSON

SHARK TANK: TYLER GOLDEN/ABC; DR. KEN: DANNY FELD/ABC

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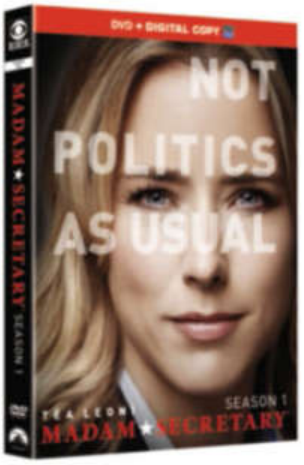
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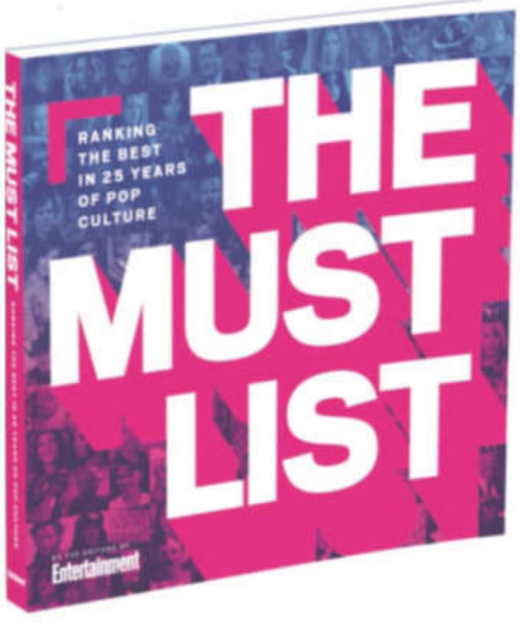
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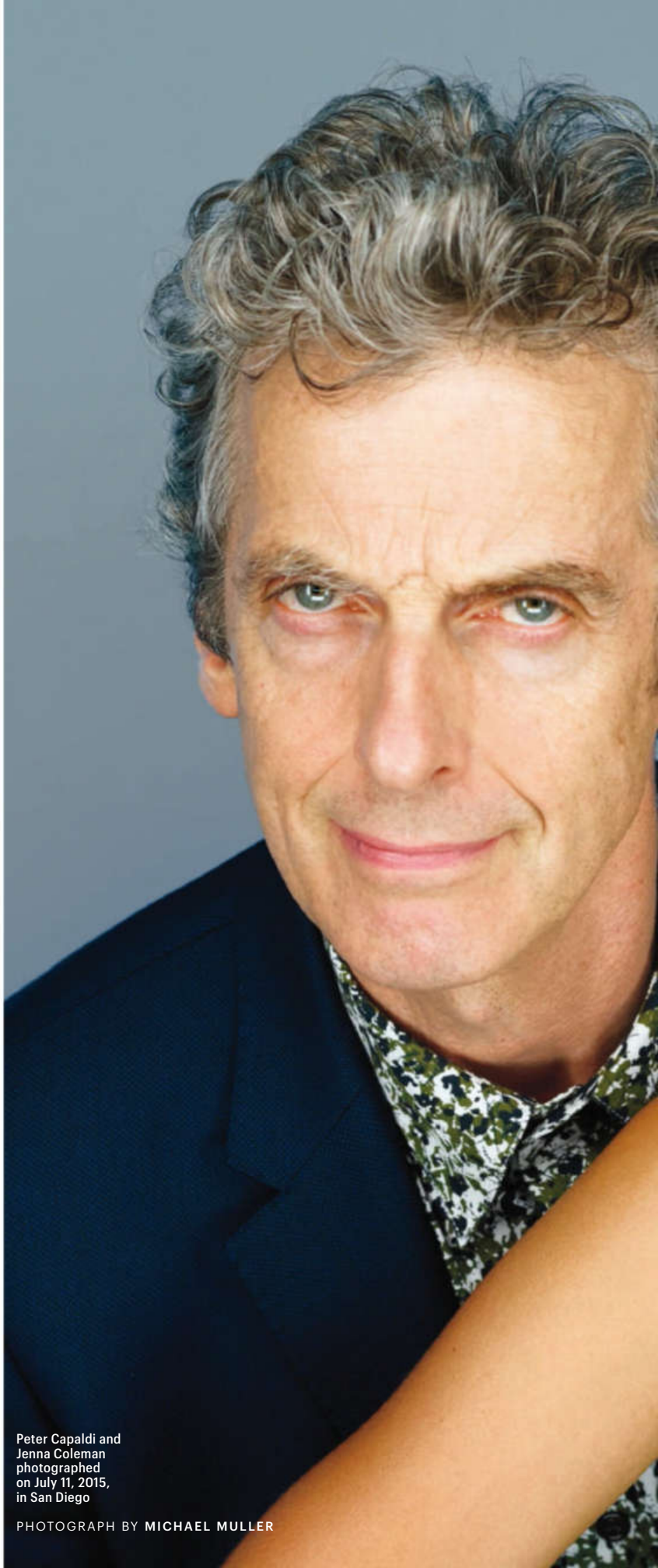
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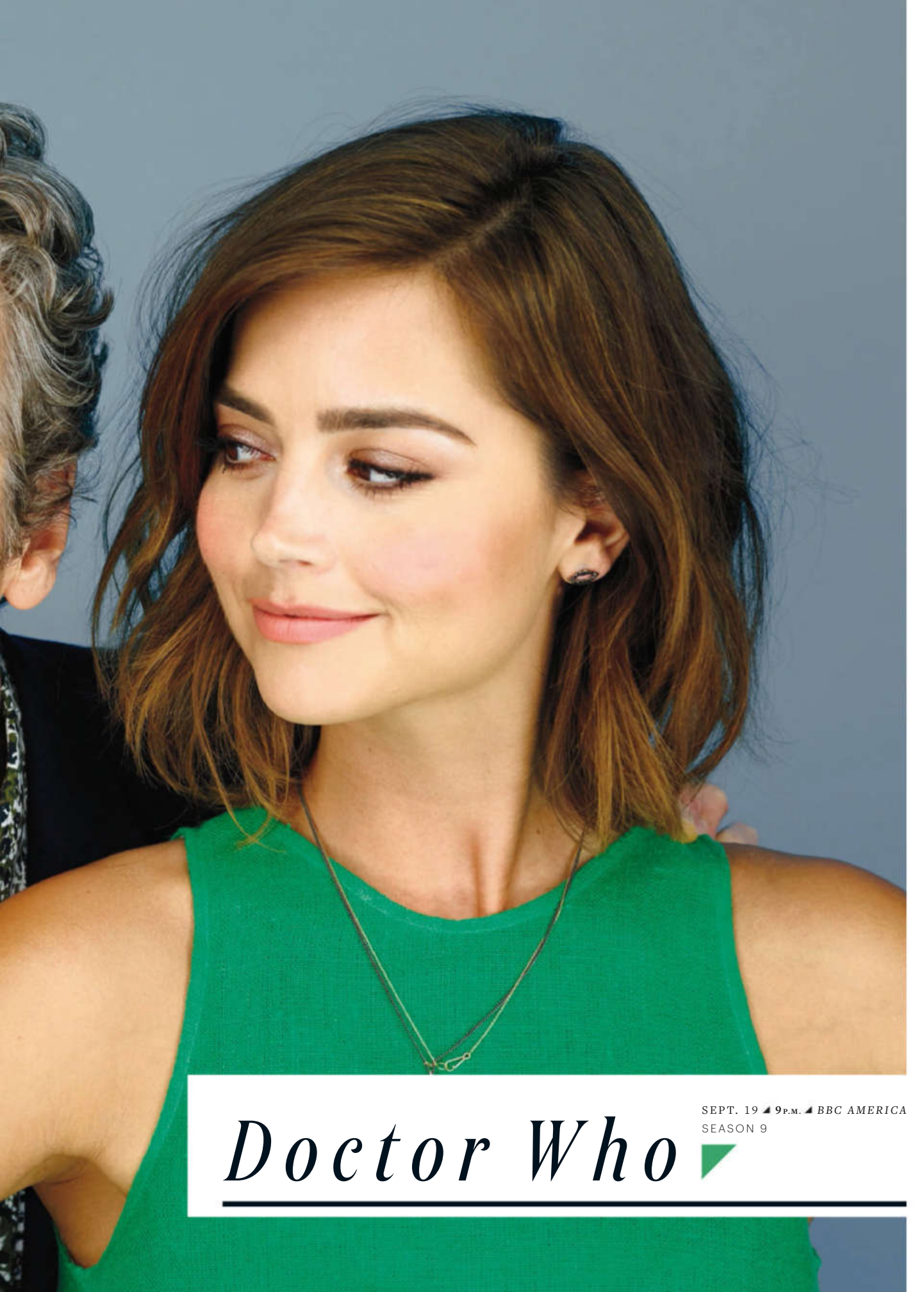
SATURDAY

SAT



Peter Capaldi and Jenna Coleman photographed on July 11, 2015, in San Diego

PHOTOGRAPH BY **MICHAEL MULLER**



Doctor Who

SEPT. 19 ◢ 9P.M. ◢ *BBC AMERICA*
SEASON 9



Jenna Coleman

FOR DIE-HARD *WHO* FANS, IT CAN SEEM LIKE A VERY LONG wait for new episodes, especially for those without a time-traveling police box at their disposal. But with the ninth season premiering Sept. 19, the Doctor is nearly in. We sat down with the show's stars Peter Capaldi and Jenna Coleman to discuss their experience scurrying around the universe for another year. —KEITH STASKIEWICZ

You are filming your second season together. How's the working relationship now?

PETER CAPALDI Us personally? [*Sighs and rolls eyes*] I can barely stand to be here with her.

JENNA COLEMAN I knew it!

CAPALDI Jenna's fabulous. I always like when we get back to the TARDIS and it's just us. We have huge adventures where gigantic things have happened, but personally I'm always most pleased when we are doing our stuff in the TARDIS.

So at this point have you fiddled with all the various buttons and levers?

COLEMAN I have. Peter has a system and a method. I like to press things, and Peter looks very disapprovingly at me.

CAPALDI I'm like, "Get your hand off of that! That's not what that one does!" I thought it was important to have a logic to the switches, so I worked out a rough geography of what each one does.

Would you ever ask Jenna, "How did the last guy do it?" Or is that like asking about an ex?

CAPALDI Pshaw! I'd never ask how to work the TARDIS. Ever. Never'd need to.

What does season 9 look like for Clara and the Doctor?

COLEMAN They've become adrenaline junkies. Especially Clara. She doesn't fear her own mortality in the same way anymore, so with that reckless abandon comes quite a lot of danger. Especially when you have two similar minds without the person to say, "You guys..."

CAPALDI You only live once, even if you're 2,500 years old. So grab it and embrace it and hold it tight, because it's dark outside.

COLEMAN Scottish doom!

CAPALDI She says I'm full of Scottish doom.

You two have run afoul of a number of intergalactic nasties. Any favorites from last season or this?

CAPALDI I think Daleks are still great. But when you see them actually come together—I hope I won't destroy any of your illusions but there's a man inside the Dalek, and there's another man doing the voice, and another operating the lights and stuff. So when you meet them, you kind of wish they hadn't introduced themselves. It breaks the spell. But then the first time they all worked together, I was like, "Wow. I'm actually talking to a Dalek." And then it bashes into a wall when it tries to go through a door.

COLEMAN I tend to like the slow-boil ones, like the Whisper Men or the Silence. The scarier ones don't need to go fast because they know they'll get you eventually.

CAPALDI There's one in this new season that's very good. Very scary.

COLEMAN We also have Vikings this year.

CAPALDI I came into work one day on my day off...

COLEMAN He does that a lot.

CAPALDI ...and she was in a space suit standing on a spaceship with a bunch of confused-looking Vikings. I had no idea what was going on.

COLEMAN I had it under control.

Your Doctor's costume has fewer accoutrements than previous incarnations. Does your look stay the same this season?

CAPALDI It softens up a bit because he's having a bit more fun. Sometimes he's very buttoned-up, then in other episodes he's really louche and loose, so I try to fit the costume to the tone of the episodes. But I wanted it stark. I like the man in black. I'm always classically drawn to, you know, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison...Count Dracula.

So no ascot or face tattoo?

CAPALDI What about a Doctor Who cummerbund?

Any time periods you're dying to visit?

CAPALDI I'd like the Doctor to meet Jimi Hendrix. Or have some sort of rock episode. Maybe a monster arrives on Earth in the Reeperbahn with the Beatles, and the Doctor has to track it through different musical periods. Obviously Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars could be on the forefront of an alien invasion.

COLEMAN They're actual spiders from Mars.

CAPALDI I've had enough space opera, let's get some rock opera in there.

> ***"I'D LIKE THE DOCTOR TO MEET JIMI HENDRIX. OBVIOUSLY ZIGGY STARDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS COULD BE ON THE FOREFRONT OF AN ALIEN INVASION."***
>
> —PETER CAPALDI

SATURDAY

NEW + RETURNING


Bruce Campbell

Saturday Night Live

SEASON 41 | 11:30 P.M. | NBC

After last year's star-gorged 40th-anniversary special, *Saturday Night Live* is coming back with a bang, tapping the surprisingly hilarious Miley Cyrus to be the first host of season 41. (A prescient choice given Cyrus' buzzy turn at the VMAs.) "She was one of my favorite guests," says cast member Aidy Bryant, who enters her fourth season. "I don't think this sketch even made it to dress, but at one point she was singing a really dumb song about a grandma, and her voice is so beautiful that I was like, 'Am I getting teary right now from this dumb grandmother-sketch song?'" Also on tap to host are Amy Schumer, who'll make her *SNL* debut, and Tracy Morgan, in his first performance since his 2014 car crash. Newcomer Jon Rudnitsky has been announced as a featured player and will join returning castmates including Taran Killam, Vanessa Bayer, and Kate McKinnon. As for recurring sketches, Bryant says, "If I had my choice, I would film a 'Dyke & Fats' every day. And I love those all-girl music videos. It's like you're in the Spice Girls, which is my own personal fantasy." Ours, too, Aidy! **OCT. 3**

ASH VS EVIL DEAD

NEW HORROR | 9 P.M. | STARZ

Groovy is the only word that describes the return of the cult horror franchise *Evil Dead*, now in small-screen form. Even groovier is the fact that the 10-episode series will feature plenty of the trademark "splatstick" we've come to know and love. "It's a combination of horror and comedy," says star Bruce Campbell. "We take the horror seriously. But we had to remind Starz that these movies aren't just straight horror. They're a little weird." Alas, they were too much for one early viewer: Campbell's wife. "I showed her the first episode that Sam Raimi directed and asked if it's a show she'd watch," he says. "She goes, 'Hell, no! Not in a million years!'" **OCT. 31**

Marvel's Guardians of the Galaxy

HOW TO... *ANIMATE CHRIS PRATT (AND GROOT!)*

NEW ANIMATED | 9:30 P.M. | DISNEY XD



IF IT SEEMS LIKE TURNING *GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY* INTO AN ANIMATED SHOW WAS JUST A CRAZY AFTERTHOUGHT ONCE THE 2014 MOVIE BECAME A BLOCKBUSTER (TO THE TUNE OF $774 MILLION), THEN GUESS AGAIN. IN FACT, PLENTY OF PLANNING WENT INTO DEVELOPING THE SERIES IN ADVANCE. SO HOW EXACTLY DOES A LIVE-ACTION FILM BECOME A CARTOON? —CLARK COLLIS

1 MOVE FAST!

Marvel began prepping a cartoon continuation of director James Gunn's sci-fi blockbuster even before it hit theaters. "We knew in the early stages of the development on the film that we had a really special property," says Cort Lane, VP, animation development at Marvel Animation Studios. "We started working on the series before the feature film was finished."

2 DON'T MESS WITH A WINNING FORMULA

Fans will see Peter Quill and the rest of the Guardians embark on fresh adventures as they seek a powerful weapon called the Cosmic Seed, but the show stays true to the film's fun spirit. "At the end of the movie they have the line 'What shall we do? A little good? A little bad? A little bit of both?'" says Stephen Wacker, VP, current series. "This is a little bit of both."

3 FIND THE RIGHT VOICES

The show has a different cast from the film: Will Friedle (*Boy Meets World*) takes over Quill from Chris Pratt, and animation vet Kevin Michael Richardson branches out into the role of Groot. So, does Richardson get paid the same, even though Groot only ever utters the same phrase over and over? "He does," laughs Lane. "But there's a nuance to every single line." **SEPT. 26**

***SATURDAY* WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY** KYLE ANDERSON AND DALTON ROSS

DOCTOR WHO: BBC WORLDWIDE; *ASH VS EVIL DEAD*: MATT KLITSCHER/STARZ; *MARVEL'S GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY*: DISNEY XD

FALL TV PREVIEW

STREAM



Alexa Davalos



The Man in the High Castle

NOV. 20 ◢ *AMAZON*
NEW DRAMA

WHAT IF THE NAZIS AND THE AXIS POWERS had won World War II? What if they'd conquered the United States? And what if, after nearly two decades of occupation, patriotism meant saluting the swastika or the rising sun instead of the Stars and Stripes?

What would a fascist America look like?

Like Amazon's chilling new thriller *The Man in the High Castle*, it turns out. In the world of *High Castle*, mere hints of treason are punishable by death, disappearances aren't out of the ordinary, and newspapers, films, and even game shows are immersed in propaganda. That's because the series, an adaptation of the Philip K. Dick novel of the same name, begins in 1962, and the country has been divided into three zones: the German-occupied East called the Greater Nazi Reich, the Japanese-held West called the Japanese Pacific States, and a neutral zone between them. Within this imposing setting, three main characters become caught in the German-Japanese-American tensions. One is Joe Blake (Luke Kleintank), a seemingly ordinary New Yorker who joins the underground resistance movement and heads west on a mysterious mission in the neutral zone. Over in the West, the Japanese official Nobusuke Tagomi (Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa) is dealing with spies to keep the growing Cold War-like tensions between Germany and Japan in check. And then there's Juliana Crain

(Alexa Davalos), a woman who tries to live the best life she can under Japanese rule in San Francisco until her half sister, working with the Resistance, gives her a newsreel created by "The Man in the High Castle." The film shows the Allies *winning* the war—footage that suggests that either the Axis powers lied and they didn't win, or there's something larger at play: an alternate-world reality, or an unknown matter that hints at science fiction.

Got all that? With such a tricky plot, it's no wonder it took more than 30 years for Dick's story to make the trip from page to screen. The author first put the idea into executive producer Ridley Scott's head in the early '80s, back when Scott was directing *Blade Runner*, the film adaptation of Dick's *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* Scott invited Dick to see the opening shots of futuristic Los Angeles, but when Dick watched the footage, he asked if Scott had adapted the wrong book.

"He said, 'Have you read *The Man in the High Castle*?' And I said I hadn't," Scott says. "He said, 'Good lord, this seems to be very derived from *High Castle*.'"

Dick had a point. That novel shared characteristics with what Scott had envisioned for *Blade Runner*, from the totalitarian setting to the city streets drenched in glaring neon signs. Scott decided to take on *High Castle*, but it took years before the adaptation finally found a home—and a showrunner in Frank Spotnitz. Yet despite his experience writing for *The X-Files*, Spotnitz struggled to fit everything into an hour-long drama. "I was afraid to touch it," he admits. "I was like, 'I love this book, but it's not a TV show. What am I going to do?'"

His answer: Deviate from the book. He's cut scenes and characters and added others, including a mysterious German officer (Rufus Sewell). "We depart from the novel, but we only did it to try to be more faithful to the ideas, to try and find ways to dramatize them more clearly," Spotnitz explains.

The success of adapting *High Castle* also hinged on whether the series' producers could build the ominous world Dick had envisioned while making it seem real. They did. A glimpse at an occupied USA is both chilling and breathtaking: The opening credits, set to "Edelweiss," show war footage of the Allied troops losing, as projected onto Mount Rushmore and the Statue of Liberty. And nearly every shot is steeped in German and Japanese symbols. Swastikas can be seen on license plates, flags, and pay phones; the rising sun decorates billboards, banners, and uniforms.

"It's a dark world, because obviously, the fascist forces have won," Spotnitz says. "But it's not without hope." Because in the end, even alternate histories can be changed. —SHIRLEY LI



(PREVIOUS SPREAD) *THE MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE*: LIANE HENTSCHER/AMAZON; (THIS PAGE) AMAZON STUDIOS

SET DECONSTRUCTION

An Alternate Times Square

New York City never takes center stage in the novel, but the Nazi-occupied metropolis opens the series with a sweeping sequence that shows what production designer Drew Boughton calls a "perverted, corrupted Times Square." The scene lasts only 33 seconds, but to EP Frank Spotnitz, every detail mattered: "That's the real power of this show, the desecration of our public symbols by foreign occupation. Everybody responds to that on a really deep level." Here, Boughton, Spotnitz, and the pilot's director, David Semel, explain the choices behind the shot.

THE BILLBOARDS
Boughton and his team designed each of the nearly 40 billboards in the scene. At first they included mostly German products, but Spotnitz wanted the ads to evoke ideology instead. "There was some early concept art done that showed ads for beer and sausage and pretzels, and I thought, 'That's not the point,'" he says. "I wanted those billboards to reflect a society where agriculture and industry are the driving economic ideologies."

THEATER MARQUEE
Rock Hudson and June Allyson star in *The Punch Party*, meant to sound like a sequel to *The Punch Bowl*, the 1944 film that became a popular comedy in Nazi Germany. "We used actors like Rock Hudson who would have survived a transition to Nazi America," Semel says.

NAZI-AMERICAN FLAG
"Typically what an invading country tends to do is give deference to the conquered country. So we made an amalgamation of a Nazi armband and the American flag," Semel says. As Boughton explains, "The more familiar it is, the more terrifying it is." The director says being meticulous was necessary. "Because it's streaming and available to people to watch over and over again, we just wanted to make sure that what they did see stood up to that scrutiny."

You and Your Favorite Movies: Reunited and It Feels So Good!



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STREAMING

NEW + RETURNING

Hand of God

NEW DRAMA | *AMAZON*

The drama about a man who believes he's channeling a higher power begins with a literal splash: Pernell Harris (*Sons of Anarchy*'s Ron Perlman) flailing in a public fountain. Nude. "It's one of those shots you want to get out of the way quick," Perlman says. "The image of a 65-year-old naked is not something you want to linger with." Perlman plays a powerful judge who believes the Lord is directing him to do all manner of things, including exact vengeance on the criminals who put his son in a coma. "I've never been tested this much as an actor," Perlman says. But is Harris inspired, or insane? That question drives the rest of the characters, including his wife (Dana Delany) and the duplicitous Rev. Paul Curtis (Julian Morris). "Each character could have their own show," creator Ben Watkins says. "I'm already writing spin-offs. I've got one called *Better Call Paul*," he jokes. **DEBUTED SEPT. 4**

Red Oaks

NEW COMEDY | *AMAZON*

Gregory Jacobs, longtime producer to Steven Soderbergh, and screenwriter Joe Gangemi loved to tell stories about their '80s youth spent slacking at video stores and scamming country-club members. "We've been swapping these stories for a decade without thinking it would become material," says Gangemi. What it became was the pair's first foray into TV comedy, with Soderbergh producing. Inspired by *The Graduate* and John Hughes movies, the duo wrote the semiautobiographical coming-of-age story of David (Craig Roberts), a college kid spending the summer working at a tennis club in New Jersey in 1985. "Amazon encouraged us to think about it as a five-hour movie," says Gangemi. Just like Lars von Trier's *Nymphomaniac*, but way funnier. **OCT. 9**

CASUAL

NEW COMEDY | *HULU*

EP Jason Reitman (*Juno*) delves into life after marriage for Valerie (*Trophy Wife*'s Michaela Watkins), a recent divorcée adapting to single life while living with her manipulative brother (Tommy Dewey) and sexually liberated teenage daughter (Tara Lynne Barr). The quirky family trade quips about one-night stands and online dating, but the series promises to go into deeper territory as well. "The first two episodes are like an amuse-bouche," says Watkins. "After those first couple episodes, it just takes a turn." **OCT. 7**



Eliza Coupe and Tommy Dewey

***STREAMING* WRITTEN AND REPORTED BY**
KYLE ANDERSON AND DANA ROSE FALCONE

Q+A

Aziz Ansari

OF **Master of None**

NEW COMEDY | *NETFLIX*

AZIZ ANSARI IS READY TO GET REAL...SORT OF. HIS NEW, LOOSELY AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SITCOM FINDS THE COMEDIAN AND ACTOR (AND AUTHOR) MINING HIS OWN LIFE EXPERIENCES FOR LAUGHS AND INSIGHT. AS WRITER AND STAR, COULD THIS BE HIS *LOUIE*? WE TALKED TO THE 32-YEAR-OLD TO FIND OUT. —RAY RAHMAN

You've done stand-up tours, *Parks and Recreation*, and sketches via *Human Giant*. What's the vibe of the series?
I've treated the show like I treat stand-up—what's a topic that's interesting to me? My parents, that's interesting to me, so we do a whole episode about parents. And then we wrote an episode about cheating, then an episode about old people.

Tell us about your character, Dev. He's an actor?
Yeah—he did a Go-Gurt commercial, and in the season he gets a part in this movie, *The Sickening*, which is like a black-death virus movie. You see that in little pieces.

What were your reference points when you sat down to write the show?
We watched a lot of '70s comedies, like *The Heartbreak Kid*, and talky movies like *Manhattan* and a lot of Hal Ashby stuff that aren't so *joke, joke, joke*. I watched *Parks* and I was like, "Man, this is so crazy!" It's just so fast. We're trying to go for that slower tone.

Your mom and dad are also on the show—as your mom and dad. How'd that go?
My dad really wanted to do it—he auditioned. Because it's a big part, we were auditioning other people, but no one was able to really capture the vibe of my dad. On stage, he has just been hilarious. No actor made the crew break more than my dad!

Are you a little jealous?
He's so funny, he made *me* break a bunch. But my mom didn't want to do it. I told her, "If you love me, you'll do it."

So she wouldn't audition?
No, she was "offer only."

NOV. 6



CASUAL: DALE ROBINETTE/HULU. *MASTER OF NONE*: K.C. BAILEY/NETFLIX

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INSIDE THE WRITERS' ROOM

The Mindy P

SEASON 4 | SEPT. 15 | *HULU*

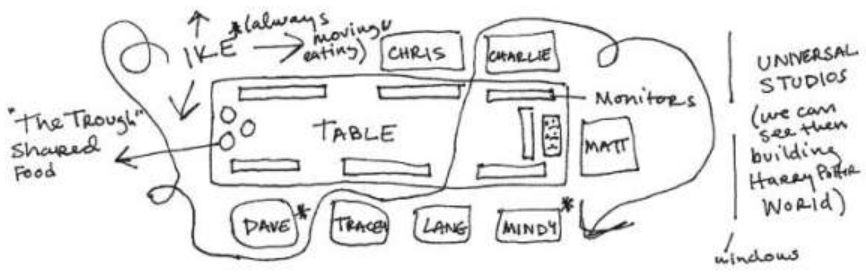
WRITERS' ROOM PROFILE

New parents are everywhere on the fourth season of *The Mindy Project*: Mindy (Mindy Kaling) and Danny (Chris Messina) are having a baby, her outrageous mother and father (Sakina Jaffrey and Ajay Mehta) are on the scene, and perhaps most important of all, the show is nestling into its newly adopted home on Hulu. The streaming service came to the rescue with a 26-episode order after Fox axed the show in the spring, and creator/star Kaling tells EW that the doors have never been more open. "This show has always been about dating and sex, and one of the challenges was the way we temper everything for network television," says Kaling. "We can now say turns of phrase we weren't able to say before, the episodes can be longer, and we can give more characters lines and know that the audience will actually see it." Expect more standout moments for razor-tongued receptionist Beverly (Beth Grant) and nurse Tamra (Xosha Roquemore) as a result, and Garrett Dillahunt and Fortune Feimster will join the clinic as a pair of strong-minded Southern siblings. "Having a baby just turns the temperature up on every other problem you throw at Mindy," says exec producer Matt Warburton. "She's a mother who isn't married yet, dating this weird guy, now her family's in the mix, and she's juggling two jobs at the same time, so there's an awful lot going on." We asked the minds behind *Mindy* to give us a glimpse into how they work—and who *they* ship. —MARC SNETIKER



Mindy Kaling, Ike Barinholtz, and Chris Messina

1 **Draw a simple bird's-eye-view diagram of the room.**



2 **What's the soundtrack of your writers' room, and who's the resident DJ?**

Miranda Berman – writers' assistant.

"We Did It" - Dora the Explorer Soundtrack

"I Love Gold" - Dora and Friends Soundtrack



3 **The office's best baker is**

Sara Seligman - Set PA (and filmmaker on the rise). No longer works here. Please come back. We miss you so much!

and he/she always makes the most delicious

Chocolate flan cake

4 **The three most commonly ordered delivery dishes:**

A. Pizza Plus ("Plus" just means: pasta, meatballs & salad too.)

B. Salads that everyone hates.

C. Spicy Ramen that everyone regrets.

Most likely to delay the order due to indecision:

This never happens. We are all pigs.

5 **Which TV show does everyone *need* to stay current on?**

The only show we all watch is Game of Thrones. Other popular shows are Ru Paul's Drag Race, Big Brother, Sexo Urbano (late-night HBO's most erotic travelogue), Frontline, The Walking Dead.

roject

6 **Which TV show gets referenced most?**

Peaky Blinders.
(Mindy talks about it all the time. We refuse to watch it just to frustrate her.)

7 **What do you do when you reach a stalemate or room-wide wall?**

We keep working until we get it. And order a birthday cake with no name on it as an incentive.



8 **Which characters on your show do you ship?**

Mindy and Danny.
Mindy and Michael Fassbender.
Danny and Pope Francis.

9 **List the items on your inspiration/ vision board.**

We don't have one. Putting up a vision board feels like a good way to get cancelled. All we have up is a photo of Tracey's mom in a hammock and a twins-separated-at-birth mock up of Gov. Scott Walker and Nickelback's Chad Kroeger.

10 **The typical volume level of the room (on a scale of 1 to 10):**

5- Normal.
7.3- Tracey is talking about her her wedding or Sexo Urbano
81- Ike is in the room.



11 **When does happy hour start? Is there a signature cocktail?**

We have work to do. There is no drinking. But Dave Stassen does have a line of signature "mock-tails."

12 **Who's the Danny Castellano of the room?**

Mindy.



13 **What's one of your room traditions?**

Our Secret Santa tradition is to pick the name of a writer out of a hat and buy them a very nice outfit to our holiday dinner.

The daily "hiding of the space heaters" from the fire marshal.

Tracey sneaking her long, cold toes under Lang's butt.

THE MINDY PROJECT: BETH DUBBER/NBC; DORA THE EXPLORER: NICK JR.; CAKE: GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCKPHOTO; BARINHOLTZ: JASON LAVERIS/FILMMAGIC.COM; KALING: JOHN F. LEENOR/NBC

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Fall TV's Best Bets

CRITICS **MELISSA MAERZ** AND **JEFF JENSEN** PICK THE NEW SEASON'S MOST PROMISING SHOWS



Quantico's Johanna Braddy, Priyanka Chopra, and Yasmine Al Massri; *Scream Queens*' Emma Roberts; *The Man in the High Castle*'s Luke Kleintank and Alexa Davalos

QUANTICO: GUY D'ALEMA/ABC; THE MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE: LIANE HENTSCHER/AMAZON STUDIOS; SCREAM QUEENS: STEVE DIETL/FOX

MELISSA ON...

The Man in the High Castle

NOV. 20 | **Streaming** | *AMAZON*

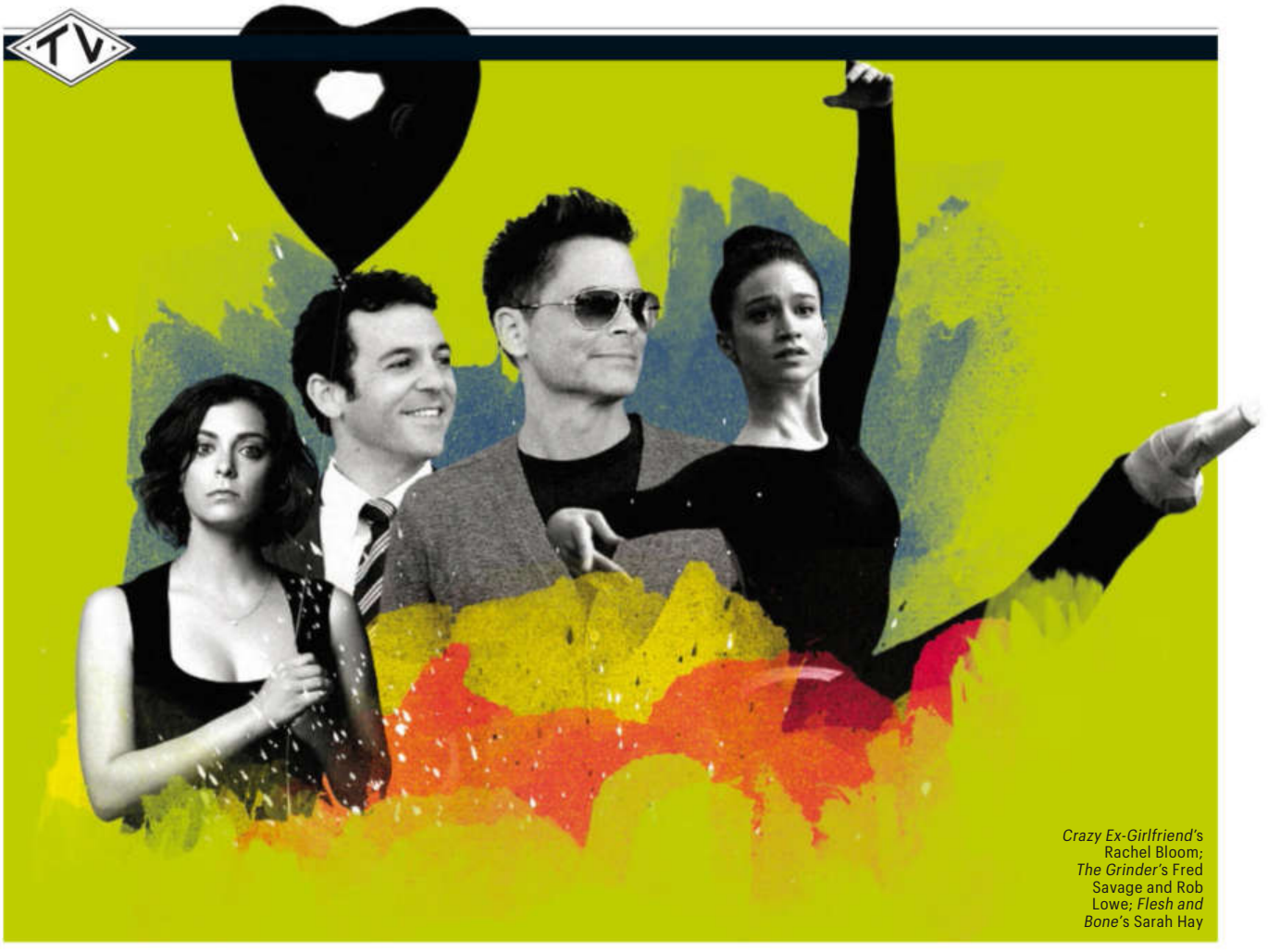
Inspired by the classic Philip K. Dick novel, this high-concept drama imagines what would happen if the Nazis had built the bomb first and won World War II, leaving America split into the Greater Nazi Reich (in the East) and the Japanese Pacific States (in the West). The premise alone is rich with political intrigue, as Juliana (Alexa Davalos) and Joe (Luke Kleintank) carry out secret missions during the early 1960s that may or may not help the Resistance. When Juliana discovers newsreels that suggest the Allies really did win the war, leading to a massive cover-up, her search for a rebel hero known as the Man in the High Castle will leave viewers furiously trading conspiracy theories on Reddit. But the plot isn't even the best part. It's the evocative paranoid world that creator/executive producer Frank Spotnitz (*The X-Files*) has built, cast in seasick greens and yellows, with swastikas, rising suns, and other propaganda hidden within billboards—and a creeping sense that you'll never really know who or where the enemy is.

Quantico

SEPT. 27 | **10 P.M.** | *ABC*

It's the best Shonda Rhimes drama that Shonda Rhimes never touched. Created and produced by Joshua Safran (*Smash*) with Mark Gordon (*Grey's Anatomy*), this soapy thriller follows FBI recruits (Priyanka Chopra, Jake McLaughlin, Yasmine Al Massri, Johanna Braddy, Tate Ellington, and Graham Rogers) as they train at Virginia's Quantico base, where they discover that they all have—whisper it with us, now—*secrets*. One of them ends up masterminding the biggest terrorist attack since 9/11, and Alex (Chopra) is the main suspect, though every recruit seems suspicious. Like any good Shondaland drama, the pilot features oh-my-God twists, a suspenseful cliff-hanger, and a diverse cast of attractive, hyper-ambitious characters who generate enough sexual tension at work to warrant a call to HR. Plus, as a former Miss World who breaks typecasting as an inscrutable agent, Chopra's bound to be a breakout star.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY **ARIAN BEHZADI**



Crazy Ex-Girlfriend's Rachel Bloom; *The Grinder*'s Fred Savage and Rob Lowe; *Flesh and Bone*'s Sarah Hay

Scream Queens

SEPT. 22 | 8 P.M. | *FOX*

Is this twisted horror comedy satirizing mean girls, or acting like a mean girl itself? You might ask yourself that question as you watch this instant camp classic from Ryan Murphy, Brad Falchuck, and Ian Brennan, the creators of *Glee*. Emma Roberts oozes pure evil as sorority queen Chanel, who's been forced by Dean Munsch (Jamie Lee Curtis) to open Kappa House to all students (even the misfits), while a devil-masked killer knocks off pledges and Kappa sisters. The premise borrows liberally from 1988's *Heathers*, and some jokes are too easy or cruel, like when we're encouraged to laugh at a deaf woman. But the wit is sharp and the schadenfreude is high, with pop stars (Ariana Grande, Nick Jonas) cast among the spoiled and the doomed. The whole time I watched, I was either laughing out loud, or feeling guilty for laughing out loud.

JEFF ON...

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend

OCT. 12 | 8 P.M. | *THE CW*

Besides *Scream Queens*, no new show tries harder at being ballsy than *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. Rebecca (Rachel Bloom) grew up with a mom who drove her to be a success...and may have driven her bonkers in the process. Now a hot-shot, happiness-challenged lawyer, Rebecca scores a promotion that would surely please Mom, but ultimately throws everything away to chase an old flame. Did we mention this is a musical? Bloom fascinates with a risky performance that embraces Rebecca's hot mess instead of laboring to make it cutesy-endearing. The pilot has a work-in-progress vibe, but with the right tuning, this offbeat fable about personal reinvention could really sing.

Flesh and Bone

NOV. 8 | 8 P.M. | *STARZ*

A dark drama about a talented dancer in a prestigious New York ballet company will evoke comparisons to the film *Black Swan*. But *Flesh and Bone* creator Moira Walley-Beckett, an ace Emmy-winning *Breaking Bad* scribe, immediately forges a unique identity with a grittier take. In a quietly commanding performance, Sarah Hay is Claire, a damaged ingenue determined to live the dream. She gets her shot—and more—when a tyrant auteur (Ben Daniels) becomes obsessed with making her a star. The performances and the realism, psychological and otherwise (Hay really dances!), are riveting, and the urgent drama of a young woman trying to rise and thrive within a degradingly competitive, predatory, exploitative culture—or just surviving it, without moral compromise—positions *Flesh and Bone* as a meaty allegory that resonates with the times.

The Grinder

SEPT. 29 | 8:30 P.M. | *FOX*

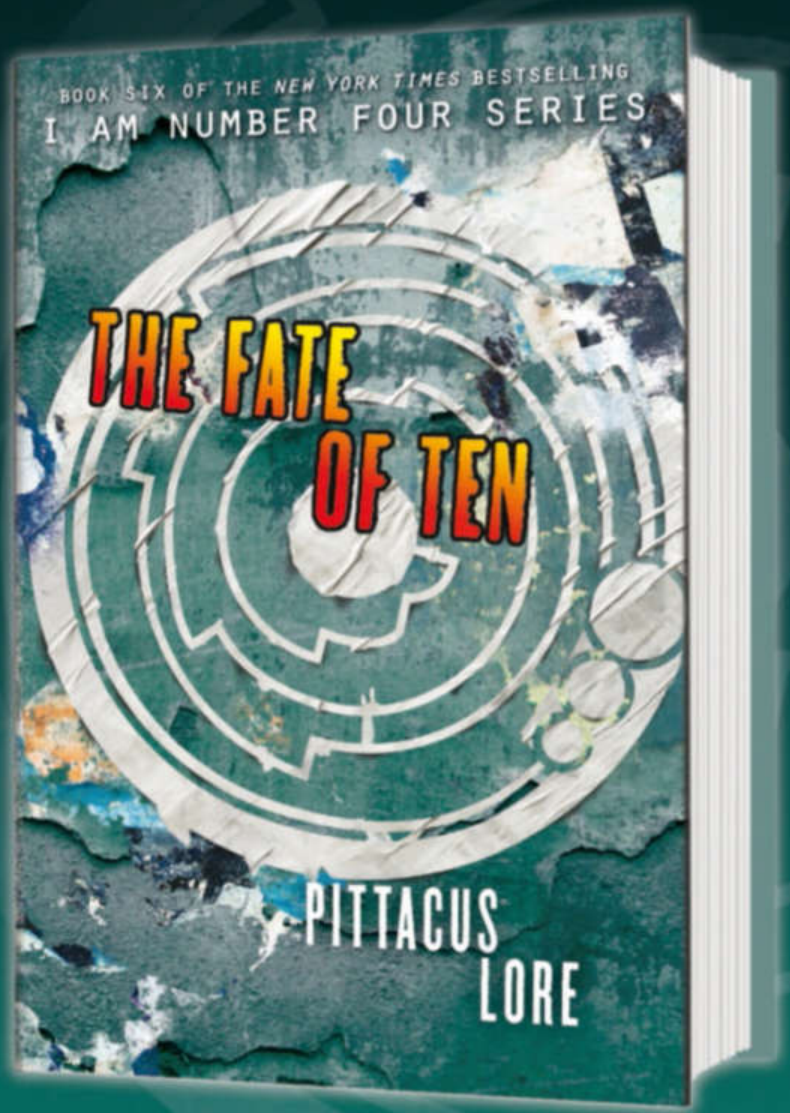
Rob Lowe has been making midlife millions slyly spoofing his image, from DirecTV commercials to the upcoming *Archer*-wannabe adult 'toon *Moonbeam City*. He hones the act to giggly perfection on *The Grinder* playing Dean Sanderson Jr., a vain TV star yearning for a more substantial existence now that his popular legal drama has come to an end. Returning to his Idaho hometown, the prodigal son charms his way into the life—and the law practice—of his more mature little bro played by Fred Savage. He's as endearing as he was on *The Wonder Years* but even more skilled, elevating his beleaguered straight man and generating great chemistry with Lowe. *The Grinder* could become a grind if the show can't keep the premise vital, but Lowe and Savage will inspire you to see if it can.

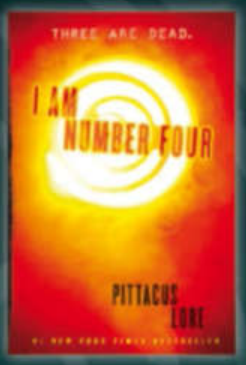
Follow critics @MsMelissaMaerz and @EWDocJensen to get their instant reactions to the fall season

CRAZY EX-GIRLFRIEND: MATHIEU YOUNG/THE CW; THE GRINDER: RAY MICKSHAW/FOX; FLESH AND BONE: STARZ

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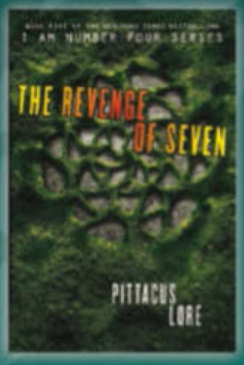












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Fall TV, From A to Y

A HANDY GUIDE TO ALL YOUR FAVORITE SHOWS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM—ON TV AND IN THIS ISSUE

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY **MICHAEL MULLER**

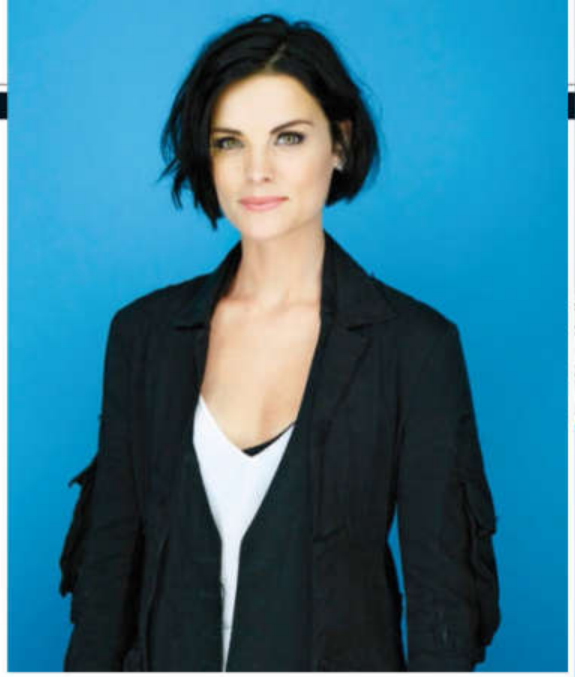
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(Clockwise from far left) *Blindspot*'s Jaimie Alexander; *American Horror Story: Hotel*'s Sarah Paulson, Matt Bomer, and Angela Bassett; *Ash vs Evil Dead*'s Lucy Lawless and Bruce Campbell

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The Bullseye

FALL TV EDITION



"Sure, whatever."
—Casting director, *Dancing With the Stars* season 21



American Horror Story: DVR Conflicts



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Never forget.



Season 2 of *HTGAWM*: More penises! More dead girls! More phones!



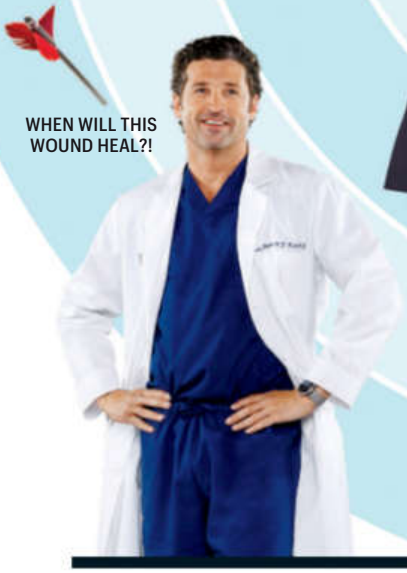
Madam, how will you take your Rob Lowe this fall?



Bye-bye, *CSI*. We hope there are fingerprints to dust for in heaven.



This fall's Smartest casting is on *Fargo*.



WHEN WILL THIS WOUND HEAL?!



We love Supergirl, but let's be honest: Hulu's the real hero this season.



If *Chicago Med* takes off, it's just a matter of time before NBC greenlights *Chicago Farmers' Market*.



We're still missing Elena...and Katherine... and Amara...and Tatia...



No pressure, guys.

FOREVER: SELFIE; GREY'S ANATOMY: BOB D'AMICO/ABC (3); ABOUT A BOY: ROBERT TRACHTENBERG/NBC (2); SUPERGIRL: RICHARD CARTWRIGHT/CBS; EMPIRE: CHUCK HODES/FOX; SCREAM QUEENS: MATTHIAS CLAMER/FOX; THE MUPPETS: ERIC MCCANDLESS/ABC; HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER: MITCHELL HAASETH/ABC; CSI: ROBERT VOETS/CBS; JEAN SMART: GABRIEL OLSEN/FILMMAGIC.COM; TREVOR NOAH: JAMES YANG/COMEDY CENTRAL; STEPHEN COLBERT: JEFFREY R. STAAB/CBS; CHICAGO MED: PAUL DRINKWATER/NBC; THE VAMPIRE DIARIES: JUSTIN STEPHENS/THE CW; THE MINDY PROJECT: MARK SELIGER/HULU; THE GRINDER: JUSTIN STEPHENS/FOX; MOONBEAM CITY: COMEDY CENTRAL; KINGDOM: JUSTIN LUBIN/DIRECTV; REMOTE: LONGHA2006/GETTY IMAGES; PAULA DEEN: JB LACROIX/WIREIMAGE.COM; GARY BUSEY: TIBRINA HOBSON/WIREIMAGE.COM


A NEW PHENOMENON BEGINS
HEROES
REBORN
SPECIAL 2-HOUR PREMIERE
THURSDAY SEPT 24 · 8/7c
NBC
FOLLOWED BY THE PLAYER


Piecing together her past.
One tattoo at a time.
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WELLER
FBI
FBI
C.I.R.G.
BLINDSPOT
SERIES PREMIERE
MONDAY SEPT 21 • 10/9c
NBC
AFTER THE VOICE